

## **John 1:1-14** | *The Word Became Flesh*

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## **John 1:1-14** | *The Word Became Flesh*

<sup>14</sup> The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

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GROWING

*together*

*in*

GOD'S

WORD

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*LEARNING  
THE WORD*



# GROWING *together* in GOD'S WORD

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## Wed. Night Studies

## Sermons in October

*What is the Word?*

**Learning the Word**

*How should we read the Word?*

**Loving the Word**

*How does the Word change us?*

**Living the Word**

***Biblical Instruction***



**Biblical Action**

## GROWING *together* in GOD'S WORD

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<sup>6</sup> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with... **Romans 6.6**

<sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. **John 3:5**

## GROWING *together* in GOD'S WORD

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<sup>4</sup> Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. **Romans 6.4**

<sup>4</sup> ...They follow the Lamb wherever he goes. They were purchased from among mankind and offered as firstfruits to God and the Lamb. **Revelation 14:4**



# GROWING *together* *in* GOD'S WORD

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Buried *with* Him, Born-again *through* Him—

We follow together *behind* Him.

We grow together *in* Him.

- **grow** in the grace and knowledge of Jesus *2 Pt. 3:18*
- being **rooted** and established in love *Eph. 3:17*
- **growing** to become like Christ, our head *Eph. 4:15*
- crave pure spiritual milk, to **grow up into** salvation, *1 Pt. 2:2*



## Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty*

<sup>1</sup> “Come, all you who are thirsty,

come to the waters;

and you who have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without cost.

<sup>2</sup> Why spend money on what is not bread,

and your labor on what does not satisfy?

The background is a dark blue-grey color with a decorative border of orange and green elements. The border consists of stylized orange fruits and green leaves. Faint, illegible text is visible within the green leaves. A vertical white line is positioned on the left side of the page, starting from the top and extending down to the bottom of the text area.

## Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty*

Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,  
and you will delight in the richest of fare.

<sup>3</sup> Give ear and come to me;  
listen, that you may live...



**Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty***

<sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake their ways  
and the unrighteous their thoughts.  
Let them turn to the Lord,  
and he will have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.



**Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty***

<sup>8</sup> “For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,”  
declares the Lord.

<sup>9</sup> “As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.



**Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty***

<sup>10</sup> As the rain and the snow  
    come down from heaven,  
and do not return to it  
    without watering the earth  
and making it bud and flourish,  
    so that it yields seed for the sower  
    and bread for the eater,



**Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty***

<sup>11</sup> so is **my word that goes out from my mouth:**

It will not return to me empty,  
but will **accomplish what I desire**  
and **achieve the purpose for which I sent it.**



**Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty***

<sup>12</sup> You will go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and hills  
will burst into song before you,  
and all the trees of the field  
will clap their hands.





**Isaiah 55 | *Invitation to the Thirsty***

<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper,  
and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.

This will be for the Lord's renown,  
for an everlasting sign,  
that will endure forever.”

<sup>1</sup> “I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.

<sup>2</sup> He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be **even more fruitful**.      **John 15:1-2**

...the mountains and hills

will **burst into song** before you,  
and all the trees of the field  
will **clap their hands**.

<sup>13</sup> Instead of the ~~thornbush~~ will grow the **juniper**,  
and instead of ~~briers~~ the **myrtle** will grow.

**Isaiah 55:12b-13**

# GROWING *together* *in* GOD'S WORD

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1. To what extent do Christians have a **responsibility to learn** the Word of God?
2. Can someone truly follow Christ **without knowing** the Word of God?
3. How does **knowing** God's Word relate to **other aspects** of our faith in Christ?

# *What is the Word of God?*

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**Word of God:** The revelation of God to mankind.

“By revelation we mean the whole self-disclosure of God to man, whatever forms that disclosure may assume.”

Harold S. Bender. *Biblical Revelation and Inspiration*.

“The Word of God is the incarnation of the thought of God.”

Daniel Kaufmann. *Bible Doctrine*.

# *What is the Word of God?*

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The Word of God has come to us in several forms throughout the Bible:

1. The messages God communicated to His people through **His prophets**.
2. The proclaimed message of **the Gospel**.
3. The **written Scriptures** of the Old Covenant.
4. The personal Word of God, **Jesus**.

## *The Word of God: The Prophets*

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<sup>1</sup> In the past **God spoke** to our ancestors **through the prophets** at many times and in various ways, **Heb. 1:1**

<sup>1</sup> After this, **the word of the LORD** came to Abram in a vision... **Gen. 1:1**

<sup>1</sup> The boy Samuel ministered before the LORD under Eli. In those days **the word of the LORD** was rare; there were not many visions. **1 Sam 3:1**

## *The Word of God: The Gospel*

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<sup>14</sup> “The farmer sows **the word.**”

— Parable of the Sower

**Mk. 4:14**

<sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through **the word of truth**, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. **Jas. 1:18**

<sup>4</sup> But many of those who had heard **the word** believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand. **Ac. 4:4**

## *The Word of God: The O.T. Scriptures*

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<sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not **the smallest letter**, not **the least stroke of a pen**, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. **Mt. 5:18**

<sup>13</sup> Thus you nullify **the word of God** by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.” **Mk. 7:13**

<sup>16</sup> **All Scripture** is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, **2 Tm. 3:17**



# O.T. Quotes in N.T.

1. Citations **360**

*Direct quotes of the Hebrew or Septuagint and intended citations by the wording of the author.*

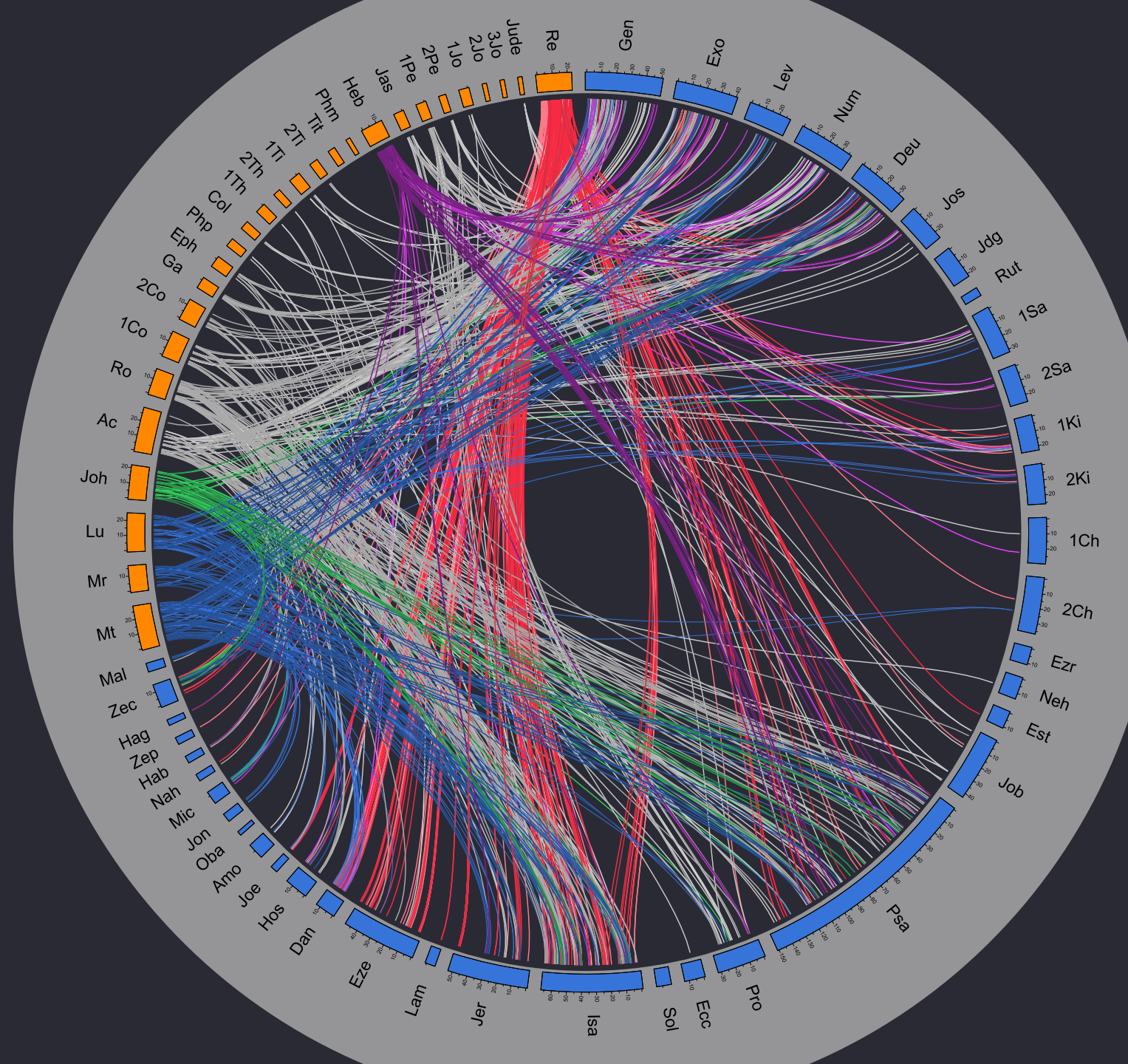
2. Allusions **510**

*Relatively clear allusions to O.T. passages.*

3. Possible Allusions **139**

*Less clear allusions to O.T. passages.*

**Total References 1009**



## *The Word of God: Jesus*

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“In the fullest sense the expression, *Word of God*, applies strictly to Jesus Christ, for He was the living embodiment of God. He was in His very person the incarnation of Deity. All that God is, Christ is.”

J.C. Wenger. *God's Word Written*.

<sup>1</sup> In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> **but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. **Heb. 1:1-2**

# *The Word of God: **Jesus***

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# *The Word of God: **Jesus***

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## *The Word of God: Jesus*

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Jesus is the center of Scripture. He is the Supreme, Full, and Final revelation of God to man.

<sup>39</sup> You study the Scriptures diligently because you think that in them you have eternal life. **These are the very Scriptures that testify about me,** **Jn. 5:39**

<sup>6</sup> Jesus answered, “I am the **way** and the **truth** and the **life**. No one comes to the Father except through me. **Jn. 14:6**

## *Learning the Word*

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Throughout the Old Testament and the New, God's people receive the continual exhortation:

**LEARN THE WORD.**



## *Exhortation to Learn in the O.T.*

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### **Deuteronomy 6:4-9 | *The "Shema"***

<sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

<sup>5</sup> Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup> **These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.** <sup>7</sup> **Impress them** on your children. **Talk about them** when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup> **Tie them** as symbols on your hands and **bind them** on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup> **Write them** on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

## *Exhortation to Learn in the O.T.*

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### **Psalm 1 | *The Blessed Man***

<sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one

who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
or sit in the company of mockers,

## *Exhortation to Learn in the O.T.*

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### **Psalm 1 | *The Blessed Man***

<sup>2</sup> but **whose delight** is in the law of the Lord,

and **who meditates** on his law **day and night**.

<sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,

which yields its fruit in season

and whose leaf does not wither—

whatever they do prospers.

## *Exhortation to Learn in the O.T.*

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### **Why was Israel called to learn the Word?**

1. To **reflect** God's glory
2. To **keep** the covenant
3. To **set** Israel **apart**
4. To **show** God's character to the nations
5. To **pattern** their life and worship
6. To **remember** what God had done

## *Exhortation to Learn in the N.T.*

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### **Matthew 11:29 | God's Enduring Invitation**

<sup>28</sup> “**Come to me**, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> **Take my yoke** upon you and **learn from me**, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

## *Exhortation to Learn in the N.T.*

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### **Colossians 3:16** | *What Shapes our Life Together?*

<sup>16</sup> Let **the word of Christ** dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

## *Exhortation to Learn in the N.T.*

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### **2 Corinthians 3:2-3 | *Living Letters***

<sup>2</sup> You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. <sup>3</sup> You show that you are **a letter from Christ**, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

### **2 Corinthians 4:7 | *Gospel Treasure in Jars of Clay***

<sup>7</sup> But we have **this treasure** in **jars of clay** to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

## *Exhortation to Learn in the O.T.*

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### **Why are Christians called to learn the Word?**

1. To **learn** from Jesus as Master (Mt. 11:29)
2. To **know** Jesus as Lord (Jn. 20:30-31)
3. To **live** like Jesus (Jn. 13:13-17; 1 Jn. 1:5-7)
4. To **obey** Jesus (Jn. 14:15)
5. To **resist** spiritual attack (Eph. 6:16-17)
6. To **be convicted** of sin (Acts 2:37; 41)
7. To know how to **endure** suffering and trials (Jas. 1:2-4)
8. To **share** the Gospel and make disciples (1 Pt. 3:15)



GROWING *together*  
*in* GOD'S WORD

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PARABLE OF THE TALENTS

Matthew 25:14-30