**“God with Us” Sunday Message 04072020 – Pstr Stephan**

So over the last few weeks we have been looking at Jesus and who He is.

So lets look at some recorded facts.

Lets just stop and consider this.

If someone looks at our newspapers and news TV coverage in the future, they will learn from what was recorded from eyewitnesses of the events.

So it is true with what is written in the Bible.

These are events written and witnessed by people from the past.

1. **We see –**

Jesus, **the Word** **of God** made Flesh

**Jesus is the Word.**

**John 1:1**

In the beginning was **the Word**, and the **Word was with God**, and the **Word was God.**

**John 1:14**

And the **Word became flesh** and **dwelt among us**, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the **only Son from the Father**, full of grace and truth.

**Why was this?** What are two reasons that the Word of God became flesh?

1. The **Word became Flesh** in order to save us by reconciling us with **God**.

and

1. The **Word became Flesh** so that we may know **God's** love.

Jesus is **the Word** because He was the means through which the Father brought all **physical reality into existence** and because He is **the One** Who represents the Father's invisible nature and character to that creation.

Just as your spoken word is the physical manifestation of your thoughts and personality,

Jesus is the **"Word" of the Spirit of God** **to His creation.**

We also read in

**Hebrews 1:1-2 New International Version (NIV)**

**1**In the past **God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets** at many times and in various ways,

**2**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.**

“**The Word of God”** is God Himself effecting His Will, His revelation, and communicating His being to us.

It was the **Word of God** that brought **creation into existence**.

We read in **Genesis 1:3 New International Version (NIV)**

**3**And God **said,** “Let there be light,” and **there was light**.

He spoke it. **Using the Word**.

He did not pull out a wand and wave it In the air.

He **SPOKE it into being “Let there be light”**

John in the wilderness stated

**John 1:15 New International Version (NIV)**

**15**(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”)

We read in

**John 17:5 New International Version (NIV)**

**5**And now, Father, **glorify me** in your presence with the glory I had with you **before the world began.**

This is Jesus speaking with His father in heaven.

**Notice**… glorify Me in **Your presence**. With **the glory** **I had with you . Before the world began**

Again in

**John 17:24 New International Version (NIV)**

**24**“Father, I want those you have given me, to be with me where I am, and to **see my glory**, **the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.**

And in

**John 8:58 New International Version (NIV)**

**58**“Very truly I tell you,” Jesus answered, **“before Abraham was born, I am!”**

So this gives you a very clear idea of where Jesus came from, and who He is, from the recordings of eye witnesses of the time.

These people of their time **religiously** wrote accurate accounts of these things

**2.** **Jesus among us, as man.**

Although He was the Son of God, the Bible tells us that Jesus chose to come down to earth in the form of a man.

It is written that He had a human nature and a human will, of which He overcame and never sinned.

Because of this overcoming life, He was able to overcome death and today He is seated at the right hand side of His Father in heaven.

As Christians, this is of paramount importance for us.

Because He overcame as a **man like us**, it means that we can also live the same life that He lived while on earth.

It is completely possible to follow **Christ in truth**!

If we follow Him, we will also **end up where He is!**

Here are 12 Bible verses that prove that Jesus was a man like us,

whom we can follow.

**Jesus was tempted in all points**

# Hebrews 4:15 - New International Version

**15**For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin

**Jesus had His own will, which He denied**

*“Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”*[Luke 22:42](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Luke%2022.42).

**Jesus tells us to follow Him on the way of self-denial**

*“Then Jesus said to His*[*disciple*](https://activechristianity.org/glossary/disciple)*s in* [Matthew 16:24-25](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Matt%2016.24-25)

*‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.*

*For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.’*.

Jesus grew and developed spiritually

*“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”* [Luke 2:52](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Luke%202.52).

**The Spirit of God testifies that Jesus came in the flesh**

**1 John 4:2-3 New International Version (NIV)**

**2**This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,

**3**but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.

**Jesus humbled Himself and came in the likeness of men**

**Philippians 2:5-8 New International Version (NIV)**

**5**In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

**6**Who, being in very nature[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+2%3A5-8&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29398a)] God,  
    did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;  
**7**rather, he made himself nothing  
    by taking the very nature[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+2%3A5-8&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29399b)] of a servant,  
    being made in human likeness.  
**8**And being found in appearance as a man,  
    he humbled himself  
    by becoming obedient to death—  
        even death on a cross!

**The apostle Paul refers to “the Man Jesus Christ”**

*“For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle—*

*I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.”*[1 Timothy 2:5-7](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/1%20Tim%202.5-7).

**Jesus calls Himself a Man**

*“Jesus said to them, “If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham.*

*But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God.”*[John 8:39-40](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/John%208.39-40).

**Jesus had to fight and obey to be saved from sin and death**

*“Who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.”*[Hebrews 5:7-9](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Heb%205.7-9).

**Jesus is called our “forerunner”**

**19**We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain,

**20**where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek. [Hebrews 6:19-20](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Heb%206.19-20).

**Jesus was “made like His brethren”**

We also read In

**Hebrews 2:14-17 Living Bible (TLB)**

**14**Since we, God’s children, are human beings—made of flesh and blood—He became flesh and blood too by being born in human form; for only as a human being could He die and in dying break the power of the devil who had the power of death.

**15**Only in that way could He deliver those who through fear of death have been living all their lives as slaves to constant dread.

**16**We all know He did not come as an angel but as a human being—yes, a Jew.

**17**And it was necessary for Jesus to be like us, his brothers, so that He could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God, a Priest who would be both merciful to us and faithful to God in dealing with the sins of the people.

**The Bible tells us to follow in Jesus’ steps**

**1 Peter 2:21-24 New International Version (NIV)**

**21**To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in His steps.

**22**“He committed no sin,  
    and no deceit was found in His mouth.”[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Peter+2%3A21-24&version=NIV#fen-NIV-30422a)]

**23**When they hurled their insults at Him, He did not retaliate; when He suffered, He made no threats. Instead, He entrusted himself to him who judges justly. **24**“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by His wounds you have been healed.”

**3. Jesus, my Lord and my God.**

**John 10:30** **New International Version (NIV)**

**30**I and the Father are one.”

**John 20:28 Living Bible (TLB)**

28“My Lord and my God!” Thomas said.

Remember doubting Thomas, he recognized who Jesus was.

He had witnessed many amazing things, but had a doubting fit around Jesus’s resurrection. But once he saw the proof, was totally sold out to Him.

**John 5:19 Living Bible (TLB)**

**19**Jesus replied, “The Son can do nothing by himself. He does only what he sees the Father doing, and in the same way.

Sees the **Father doing** and in the **same way.**

Both Key words in that sentence**.**

Jesus, according to Hebrews, is the King, exercising the fullness of the power of God.

As such He is rightly God.

**2 Peter 1**:1 says ...our God and Saviour Jesus Christ.

**John 20:28**, Thomas, when he put his

finger into Jesus’ pierced side, “My Lord and my God”.

1. **Jesus, The Savior of the World:**

# The God of Israel is Yahweh, the God who redeemed them from Egypt, the God who declared:

# Isaiah 43:11 New International Version (NIV)

**11**I, even I, am the Lord,  
    and apart from me there is no savior.

Jesus’ disciples came to recognize Jesus as Yahweh, coming to complete redemption, coming to save them.

Jesus (Hebrew -Yeshua means Yahweh is salvation)

**Luke 1:67-68 New International Version (NIV)**

**Zechariah’s Song**

**67**His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

**68**“Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,  
    because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

Jesus gave His disciples the experience of redemption and salvation. He redeemed them, and so they came to experience freedom.

Jesus saved them and so they came to experience meaning and

direction and hope in their lives.

In Jesus, Yahweh, their God brought about a new Exodus; a new

Passover;

a new communion with Himself through a new covenant and a new way. ..and so to us.

Jesus brought the disciples and us the message of Love, because He was fully aware of what was happening in the world.

He courageously and unrelentingly worked against all that was keeping the people bound, and leading them away from belief in the living God, and so from belief in themselves and in their world.

Jesus has liberated us from this ‘present wicked world and from the ‘power of darkness’

**Galatians 1:4 New International Version (NIV)**

**4**who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

**John 16:11 New International Version (NIV)**

**11**and about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.

# Acts 10:37-38 New International Version (NIV)

**37**You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached—

**38**how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

Jesus liberated people from a useless spiral of violence who saw warfare as an instrument of God’s will.

Jesus told the people to ‘love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you’.

**Matthew 5:44 New International Version (NIV)**

**44**But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,

Jesus gave us the message of peace

He liberated us from distrust of the world –

He ate with the outcasts of society

Jesus is our way to the Father.

Like Moses, He walked with us through the desert.

Jesus leads us to life

He is our Shepherd;

He Himself said “I come to seek out and save the

lost”

# Luke 19:10 New International Version (NIV)

**10**For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

It is through His blood that we gain our freedom;

He liberated people that they might experience greater

and greater freedom to live life to the full

**John 10:10 New International Version (NIV)**

**10**The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Jesus freed His people so that they could be His very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

**Titus 2:14 New International Version (NIV)**

**14**who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Jesus freed people so that they could discover the will of God and know what it is that God wants; and so they could fill their minds with ‘everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honor, everything that is virtuous and worth of praise.

**Philippians 4:8 New International Version (NIV)**

**8**Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

Jesus invites us to recognize Him as “My Lord and My God”...my Savior, My Redeemer “and knowing that we are loved, to grow into the fullness of life for which we are made and for which we long for.

**Lets Pray**

*Thank you Father for the WORD.*

*Father give us a clear understanding as* ***to what*** *that really means.*

*Open our eyes Father* ***lift the veil*** *that sometimes clouds our thoughts. Give us a* ***glimpse*** *of what You want us to see and* ***where*** *You want us to go and* ***what*** *You would* ***have us do****.* ***Guide us*** *Oh God.*

*Thank you Jesus that You came and that You did what You did to* ***redeem us,*** *to* ***save us from ourselves****.*

*Thank You Jesus that after You went, You* ***gave us*** *the Holy Spirit to live within us, to lead us into all truth and righteousness.*

*Holy Spirit* ***Lead us****,* ***Guide us****, in producing the* ***fruits of the Spirit*** *in our lives. Be* ***our lamp****, always showing us* ***the way****.*

*Thank You for this Church Father.*

*That you are* ***continuing to bless it****.*

*Bless You Father*

**Amen.**