

John's Nativity Passage, #3: The Real Present

Pastor Ken Sistrunk

John 1:14-18 ¹⁴The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵John testified concerning Him. He cried out, saying, "This is He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because He was before me.'" ¹⁶From His fullness we have all received grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is Himself God and is at the Father's side, has made Him known. (BSB)

Review from last week: **Luke 7:28** I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John, yet even the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." (BSB)

I. Here are the details of this passage.

- A.** The Word became human and lived **temporarily** among us. V. 14
- B.** The words "one and only Son" shows the uniqueness of Jesus Christ. It comes from the Greek word "**monogenes**". V. 14, 18
- C.** Jesus brought the grace of God to us. Grace is **unmerited favor**. He literally brings us a gift that we do not deserve. V. 14
- D.** Jesus also is the **ultimate** in revealed truth from God. All humans begin with two truths from creation. When we respond to these truths by seeking God we end up with a relationship with Jesus Christ. V. 14
- E.** Jesus **preexisted** His physical birth. V. 15
- F.** The unmerited favor in Christ is **unlimited**. V. 16
- G.** The Law was given through **Moses**, but grace and truth came through **Christ**. V. 17
- H.** The **only** way to experience God is through the Son of God. V. 18

II. How can we apply these truths?

- A.** We must **build** on the foundation of our salvation with a continuing relationship with God through Christ.
- B.** We must become the **vessels** that God uses to dwell among mankind.
- C.** **Grace** must be one of our defining characteristics.
- D.** We must stand up for the **truth** of God's word.
- E.** We must **live** to make Christ known to those who are lost.