

The Power of the Word  
John 1  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the Power that the Word possesses.

- Intro:
1. The Christian should be well aware of the power of God's Word.
  2. Before man can be redeemed He must first obey the Word, Christ.

I. The Word came from God (John 1:1-5)

A. The Word from the Beginning.

1. The Word(Christ) has always been in existence –**v.1-2**
2. The Word(Christ) had part in creation –**v.3**

B. The Word & the Light- “In Him was Life” –**v.4a**

1. In Him (Christ, the Word) was & is the light (hope) of men
2. Christ not only brought life into the world He also sustains it.

C. The Light of Men –**v.4b**

1. Without the light of Christ men would be in darkness(sin).
2. Just as natural light allows the physical eyes to see, the teaching of Christ causes the mind to “see” (understand).
  - i. No we can understand why Christ said He is the light of the world (**Jn 8:12**).

D. Darkness failed

1. Light & Darkness are complete opposites; one is moral & religious truth, the other immoral & religious error. (**John 1:5**)
2. Jesus is the victor over darkness. The darkness (sin) could not overcome the light.
  - i. Literally meaning evil “cannot take it down”.

II. The True Light is the True Word (John 1:9,11-12,17)

A. True Light –**v.9a**

1. There are many false things in the world today, Christ (the Light) is not one of them.
2. He is true, he is authentic, He is “the real deal”.
3. He delivers men to salvation while darkness delivers men to the pit of hell.

B. Who Gives Light– **v.9b**

**1. Quakers use this verse to support their view that every human being is given an inner light of sufficient clarity & intensity so that no written message is needed.**

- i. However, the word of God refutes such an idea with scripture, such as **Rom 10:17, John 20:30-31**
2. The word for world here, Kosmos, meaning the sum total of the universe is the meaning of the word World in this verse.
3. The light is present, shining for ALL men, EVERYWHERE IN THE COSMOS. There is no where His light does not shine, no one is unable to come to it.

C. Given the Right–**v.11-12**

1. Christ gave those who received Him by believing in Him and obeying Him, to them He gave them the right to become children of God.

2. Even after a person believes they only have the right or power to become a child of God. They still must DO what God requires. There are choices to be made.

### III. Lessons for us today.

#### A. The Word today still saves

1. The Word has always had the power to rescue men (**James 1:21**)
2. It is not that God cannot save, it is that man will not allow himself to be saved (**Isa 59:1**)

#### B. The problem is not in the Word but in man. (**Ezk 3:19**)

1. Man must turn from his wickedness.
2. The failure to do will surely separate man from God (**Isa 59:2**)

### Application & Conclusion:

1. John 1 is clear, Christ, the Word, the Light, brought salvation to men & continues to bring salvation to men today.
2. Man must believe in Christ as the son of God and obey the Word before man can walk in the LIGHT.
3. Now it is up to man to act upon the right given to Him by God.
4. Full Invitation

### Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

### Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9