



TEXT SUMMARY

John's Gospel is the most theological of the four Gospel accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus. The two texts for this week's sermon, [John 1:14](#) and [John 20:30-31](#), speak to the nature of the Son, who is the Savior, the Lord, the Messiah, and God Himself.

INTRODUCTION (observation):

1. When John says in John 1:14 that “**the Word** became flesh,” he’s using an expression that was well-known in both Jewish and Greek thought. **The Word** was the *logos*, a word that cannot easily be translated into English (One translation doesn’t even attempt to translate the term and merely renders the Greek *logos* as “Logos.”) It can be translated as “word” or “reason,” but there are other layers of meaning beneath. John opens his Gospel with several statements about the nature and being of the Logos. What do we already know about the Logos before we get to v. 14?
2. Many scholars think the last chapter in John’s Gospel is a kind of **epilogue**, and the body of John’s narrative concludes with ch. 20. If so, that would make 20:30-31 the concluding words of the main body of his account. What claims does he make for Jesus in these closing words?

DISCUSSION (INTERPRETATION):

The simple phrase “**the Word became flesh**” may be some of the most profound words in all of Scripture, words whose meaning we may never fully understand. How do these other New Testament texts cast light on John 1:14?

1. Phil 2:6-7
2. Heb 1:1-3a



SO WHAT? (APPLICATION):

If the bookshelves at Barnes & Noble have anything to say about it, there is a wide variety of interpretations of who Jesus was and what He means: political revolutionary, New Age guru ahead of His time, tragic martyr, brilliant but mortal moralist, legendary healer.... The list could go on.

But the New Testament presents a consistent picture: Jesus was a rabbi from the back country of Galilee who made the vast claim that He was the fulfillment of all God's promises to Israel, that He had the authority to heal and forgive outside the Temple ritual system, that God was His Father in some unique sense, that He would die at the hands of His enemies and rise from the dead. Our culture might be confused about who Jesus was, but the Scriptures are not.

Which brings us to the vital question: So what?

1. If Jesus is all that He claimed to be (and all that the Scriptures claim for Him), what difference does that make for...
 - ...the current geopolitical unrest we are seeing in the news?
 - ...the current conflicts we are seeing in our own culture?
 - ...your own conflicts and anxieties about the future... about the safety and welfare of your loved ones?
2. When you are feeling overwhelmed by the challenges of life, what is there about Jesus that you are tempted to forget and/or underestimate?