

First Cause

2023 Christmas Series: The Word Became Flesh
Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 12.03.23



I. Beginnings

Key Truth: Jesus Began It All

II. The Incarnate Word

John 1:1-5

1 The Word

2 Eternal

3 Creator

4-5 Life & Light

III. God With Us

Mid-Week Devotion (Take time to pray & respond to the following)

With one exception, everything and everyone you have ever known had a beginning. If this one exception did not exist, there would be absolutely nothing in existence—ever. Because Jesus Christ is God, and God has always been, He is therefore the uncaused, first cause of everything. Jesus began it all.

Jesus did not create everything because He *needed* to do so. He created everything because it *pleased* Him to give form to objects and beings outside of Himself. In so doing, God has empowered human beings with the ability to know and interact with Him. The eternal God and Creator of everything gives life as an expression of His love and gives light as an expression of His holiness, goodness, and glory.

Intimacy with God is a choice that people either accept or reject. As a celebration of the advent of the Messiah, Christmas is ultimately about God's offer of new life, forgiveness, and salvation through Jesus Christ. You must remember that God is near to us. He is involved in this world. He is invested in the human race. Moreover, He wants *you* in His family.

Jesus created everything, including you, for a purpose. Are you living out that purpose? Why not take the opportunity this Christmas to align your heart to God and cultivate a deeper relationship with Him? He is ready and waiting to cleanse, encourage, and guide you along the way.

Prayerfully ask God to guide you into a more intimate relationship with Him. Spend time in His Word, listen to Him in prayer, worship Him with all of your heart, mind, and soul.