## Xmas Day 2018 John 1: The Servant-Word

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup>The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

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. 15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known. 1

In the Name of Jesus.

Dearly beloved children of God: Right now! Are YOU—you right there, you!—are YOU looking DOWN to see heaven? My Bible has taught me to see that what's inside y'all is not much better than what's inside me. So, the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Jn 1:1–18). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

answer to my question is 'NO! I am NOT looking DOWN to see heaven now, God, hope, life, peace!'

Well then, Merry Christmas! I got to you just in time!

God, your ground of being—the One Who put you together and keeps you together and makes each moment yield new blessings on your way—HE...IS...NOT... 'over THERE,' 'up THERE,' 'someWHERE,' with YOU now over HERE, down HERE, 'WHERE am I????!!' Not now. Not since this: 'The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. We have seen His glory; the glory as of the Only-begotten, full of grace and truth.'

'He is a Servant—I, a LORD! How great a mystery! How strong the tender Christ Child's Love! No truer Friend than He! No truer Friend than He!'

How has Moses been giving you fits, lately? Has he taught you that your prayers are weak, faithless, ineffective? Has your love for others grown stale and cold? Is each woman, each man, each child you meet a 'new blessing on your way?' Or do the words 'burden, insult, pain' come to mind when your mind considers others?

I know why you are not fulfilling Moses! It's the same reason I am not, daily and much! Full attachment to God; self-care turned to care for all...

Because you and I do not have it in us to LOOK...DOWN...TO...SEE...GOD—TO SEE HEAVEN—TO SEE THE GLORY OF The Glorious One!

That is the first, last and every reason you and I have been baptized by Christ's Authority—born from above without OUR will, OUR decision, OUR blood spilt—not a drop! So that you and I may—like my grandson, Samuel Paul!—cry out when hungry because that's what mother and father were created for: to love Samuel Paul, my grandson! To feed him.

And when my grandson, Samuel Paul is wet—there's ANOTHER reason Jessica and Peter were sent to this earth! Oh, lives well lived!

And when my grandson, Samuel Paul, is----Y-know, I don't believe even HE has any idea what's bothering him half his fussy moments!!!---

He's got a backdrop of angels and archangels and all the company of heaven there ready to serve this little baptized sinning child of God. And I will let the angels and archangels and the rest know when they are needed to step in and help. For now, at least, I and the rest of my grandson Samuel Paul's staff—oh, all day and night we are gibbering and jabbering and cooing and clicking like all get out, to teach the rotten little sinner that WE are here....just/for/him!

As your God is now, my dear ones—NOW, since the Word was made flesh!—God lives as if the only reason HE ever popped into existence—(He'll have to forgive me for that phrase too!)—God only signed up to be God to be for you, to serve you, to make each moment yield new blessings on your way.

Lemme show you why that's grace and true; how that is grace; how that is true. The Spirit says:

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. <sup>2</sup> During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, <sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, <sup>4</sup> rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. <sup>5</sup> Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.<sup>2</sup>

Ummm—let me interrupt My Holy Spirit here—just what was it you were worried about, about your standing under God, next to God, over against God? Look at your God crawling around among the scraps and flakes and droppings we litter on the floor! Look at your God un-clothed and then wrapped up like the lowliest of slaves—and then please tell me how much distance there is between your God—over there, up there, somewhere—and YOU, down here, over here, where is God? Where am I?

The Spirit says—let Him serve!!!...:

<sup>6</sup>He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" <sup>7</sup>Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand." <sup>8</sup>Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me."<sup>3</sup>

Get it?

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Jn 13:1–5). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). (Jn 13:6–8). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

After THAT—the humiliation and pain of the cross was a cake-walk, a tiptoe through the tulips for the Word made Flesh! To lower Himself—to...RAISE HIMSELF?????!!!!—let's think as heaven thinks for just one day!!!!!

To EXALT Himself, His Father, Their Spirit, to the position of taking the treacherous feet of Judas and—incomparably worse!—the feet of His best bud, who in a few short minutes will swear to heaven on pain of losing his soul, 'I...DO...NOT...KNOW....THE...MAN...!!!'

Cupping those foul feet in His clean hands, washing them, wiping them dry with the towel covering his own modesty....

Your sins—that Moses disturbs you about—

Your sins are no longer yours. HE has finished the work of making YOUR DE-tachment from God the problem for GOD to work out—NOT/YOU!!!!

The cold wind blowing between you and family, you and friend, you and what we faithlessly call 'our enemies'----duhhhhh........ WHERE ARE YOU CHRISTMAS?!! WHY CAN'T I FIND YOU!!!

That cold wind is the fiery Spirit's to warm—it is NOT...YOURS. Not since Mary hatched her little Chick. Not since that dreadful scene of Him washing the feet. Not since the stone was rolled away and His Body isn't there!!!

YOUR...ONLY...TASK...NOW—Good deeds! Happy tasks! Works of joy and life and better than Jesus Christ

Himself can do!!! (That's in this book too; read it, your majesties!)

YOUR only task is to rest in your Baptism! Live from it! Try your best to exhaust it.

May I submit to your highnesses a living example? Thank you!

My grandson, Samuel Paul! When HE is in distress, HE would not THINK of debasing himself and taking care of the distress himself. What has he brought all of US on staff for anyway?

You can't pray right? Pray to your Servant—God—Christ—the Holy Spirit of Jesus—and leave the burden of that to Him! He will teach you to pray.

Does love escape your hands, your heart, your head—just because the next person is and does what all persons are and do? You too?

Well, Merry Christmas! And Happy Baptism! It is NOT left up to YOUR exalted self to find love, master love, confirm love. Love came down at Christmas.

Look—He went to all the trouble. Let the Lord of Love make love spring to life between you and those where love belongs but it is not!

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Oh! So OUR TASK is to put Him to work, to speak and work and love and save DESPITE His own Moses! OUR exalted station, is to pray the Servant serve!

Well...let's shoot for the moon then, why don't we, my dear ones?

## Let us REALLY do Christ-Mass!

As we eat and drink the Bread and the Wine, His Body and His Blood—and let's see if our Servant-God can accomplish the impossiblest Glory of all: pardon the likes of you and me—so that the WORLD will leap with joy! If THESE are beloved of God—then God's love is for all the world in the Name of Jesus!