
Lesson 3 — THE WORD



“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ”

[John 1:1]

As we read the printed words on this paper, we understand that these visible words first originated as a thought in the author’s mind. A thought/idea inherently is immaterial — invisible. Even a spoken word sends information through the air in the form of an invisible sound wave. Printed words, on the other hand, are the visible expression of an invisible idea. The thought and the printed word are the same — and yet different.

When the Apostle John penned his gospel, he intentionally used language that echoes the opening lines of Genesis. By taking us back to the original creation story, John wanted to send a message to the reader about the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is the eternal God and Creator of the entire universe.

“He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made ... 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.” [John 1:2-3, 14]

By using the Greek term for “Word” — or *Logos* — John was attempting to convey a deeply profound idea about the nature of God. God (*Elohim*) is a spirit, and in the beginning, Jesus — the Word — was both with God and was God. So the Word is by very nature God, but He also is distinct from God, much like printed words and the invisible thought behind them are the same but different. The Invisible God took on visible form in the Person of Jesus Christ.

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.” [Colossians 1:15-16].

The creation of the entire universe was the collaborative effort and divine masterpiece among the members of the Godhead — or Trinity [see *Genesis 1:2*].

- ❖ God the Father is the architect of creation.
- ❖ God the Son is the agent of creation.
- ❖ God the Holy Spirit is the animation of creation.

Interestingly, John's expansion of *Genesis 1* emphasizes the role of the Word in creation, and as we will see, it is not by mistake. For the Word is the instrument that God used to bring everything into being.

The Power of the Spoken Word

Now that it has been established that God the Son is the very agent of creation, it is worth taking this concept a little further. The Psalmist provides a fascinating perspective on the immeasurable power of our Creator.

“By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.”
[*Psalm 33:6,8-9*]

In the beginning Jesus Christ spoke and everything leapt into existence at the sound of His voice! Galaxies emerged, mountains were forged, and the oceans roared at His command. Myriads of angels were born along with the stars. He merely said the word, and it all came to be. This is what we find in *Genesis* — the spoken word is God's medium of creation.

And then **God said**, “*Let there be light ...*” [Genesis 1:3].

What's more amazing still, the Scriptures reveal that God supernaturally created the universe out of nothing — spontaneously generating everything by the word of His power. “*By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.*” [Hebrews 11:3]

What does the creation itself say about this? Is there evidence in the natural world that confirms this? If God created the universe through His voice, then we should expect observations in reality to conform to the testimony of Scripture.

Just in the past 100 years, as physicists developed the capacity to peer inside the atom, they were astonished at what they discovered. Everything appears to be ... **a vibration**.

Quantum Mechanics

Without getting too technical, the field of quantum mechanics has changed the way physicists are viewing the universe. The quantum realm consists of the subatomic particles that make up the atom. It is the study of how protons and electrons behave and interact with one another. Apparently these invisible molecules do not necessarily obey the laws of physics, which has raised obvious questions about the invisible “stuff” that makes up our universe.

Let’s discuss just two phenomena that are observed at the quantum level that verify the Biblical testimony of how God created and continues to sustain the universe.

The first is what is called wave-particle duality. Although it was once believed that only energy substances such as light were made of electromagnetic **waves**, and matter was made of molecular **particles**, everything changes at the quantum level, as matter and light are able to manifest both as a particle and a wave.

Perhaps the most surprising aspect of quantum mechanics is “**Super String Theory**,” the notion that the smallest particles in the material universe ultimately behave as a wave, or vibration. Take a solid rock for example. We know a rock is made of solid particles of matter, right? A rock doesn’t vibrate. Yet when observed at the sub-atomic level, even the particles of a rock are vibrating in perpetual motion. One author explained it like this.

“The force that holds quarks together is known as the strong nuclear force. As quarks oscillate and spin within the nucleus of an atom, they generate waves of space that bind them together. These highly energetic motions are nuclear waves.” [<https://quantumwavetheory.wordpress.com/tag/quarks/>]

The reason quantum mechanics are relevant to the testimony of Biblical creation is because if God brought forth the universe through the reverberating power of His voice, then we would expect everything in the created universe to be made of ... sound waves. And that is precisely what we find! The more we discover about quantum physics, the more science confirms ... everything in the universe was made by the power of the sound of God’s voice.

The second observation revealed by quantum mechanics applies to the “strong nuclear force” mentioned in the quote above. In short, atomic particles are magnetically charged and should automatically repel one another and collapse, yet this “force” somehow holds the nucleus of the atom together. Without this strong nuclear force, the entire universe would dissolve and disintegrate and no life could exist. Scientist can call it what they want, but the Bible again confirms the real “force” that is holding it all together.

Q & A

- ❖ Read Hebrews 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:15-17. What does the Bible say about the real “force” that is holding the universe together? How does it make you feel knowing the One who sustains the universe?

- ❖ Why is it important that the Biblical testimony aligns with what we observe in reality? What are some historical examples of when “science” claimed to disprove the Bible? What did time reveal in the end?

- ❖ Read 2 Peter 3:3-10. What does Peter say about what to expect in the last days? How does Peter’s testimony affirm the power of God’s spoken word? What role does God’s spoken word play in the final judgment?

- ❖ Read Isaiah 44:6 and Revelation 22:12-13. Who is speaking in each passage? How does this support the divine nature of Jesus Christ? Why is it essential that we understand and believe in the true nature of Jesus Christ as the Creator of the universe?

- ❖ Read John 17:1-5, 24. What does Jesus reveal about His relationship to God the Father? Who else was involved in the creation at the beginning, according to Genesis 1:2 and why is it significant?