

## Jesus the Word

Logos & Rhema (5:1) - written vs spoken, general vs personal

Logos: word, reason, principle, speech, idea (logic)

Stoic Logos (philosophy 300 BC): abstract principle of reason exhibited by orderly universe  
universe as single, living whole - permeated by impersonal, never resting, fiery vapor  
possessing thought - represented in persons as the soul - containing within itself the  
processes of all things - universal generative principle - life giving energy - supplying the  
standard for rational order and moral conduct

Philo: Jewish apologist (Alexandria, time of Jesus) - Jewish Wisdom with Greek Logos

God as impersonal mediator in creation, revelation, and human activity

How personal/impersonal is God in practice? (creeping Stoicism)

Jesus the Logos - unique to John (1 Jn 1:1, Rev 19:13) - answering Stoicism?

**(John 1:1-18)**

1-2 from the beginning (ancient), with God, is God

3 everything was made through Him

4-5 contains Life, His Life is the Light of men,

His Light shines in darkness, but darkness cannot understand/overcome

**(Ro 1:19-21)** <sup>19</sup>because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. <sup>20</sup>For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, <sup>21</sup>because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Stoics get Created Order, but not Personal God

**(Col 1:15-17)** <sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. <sup>17</sup>And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

Acts 17 (Athens) - (18) stoic philosophers, (23) unknown God, (25) gives life to all things, (28) "in Him we live, and move, and have our being"

10 He came into the world He made, but it didn't recognize Him

11 His own people (Jews) didn't receive Him

12 those who believe/receive Him are Empowered (exousia) to be God's children (access)

13 through being born of God - born again (Jn 3:3-9)

14 **Logos became a man and walked among us (Personal!)**

revealed Glory like a Son of God (mongenes)

full of Grace (empowerment) and Truth (understand creation & morality)

16 we received Empowerment from His Fullness

17 conduct by human effort and rules vs empowerment and understanding

18 Jesus declares/explains the Father (exegeomai)

(Heb 1:1-3) <sup>1</sup> God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; <sup>3</sup>who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power,

Bosom of the Father - **Intimacy!** (Jn 13:23, 21:20)

Jesus the Word is not metaphor, He is Logos in every way.

very big (holds everything together), very personal (hairs & sparrows)

Stoics can't influence created order, only try to be in harmony with it.

Can Empowered Children of Logos influence creation? (creeping stoicism)

Logos

(Heb 4:12) <sup>12</sup>For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Can we order our own hearts through declaring His Word?

(Jn 8:31-32) <sup>31</sup>Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. <sup>32</sup>"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Can deeply consuming His Word make us free of the world's influences?

Rhema (still empowered - Heb 1:3)

(Jn 6:63, 68) <sup>63</sup>"It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. <sup>68</sup>But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Can we speak words that impart life to others?

(Heb 11:3) <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

Can we by faith create?

Old Testament

(Ps 33:6) <sup>6</sup>By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

(Ps 107:20) <sup>20</sup>He sent His word and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

Can we send His word to heal and deliver? (Mt 8:5-13)

(Isa 55:10-11) <sup>10</sup>"For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Can we, through consistently declaring His Word, order our homes, cities, and nation?