

JESUS THE WORD MADE FLESH: THE THIRD WITNESS OF JOHN THE APOSTLE JOHN 01:14–18

Introduction

“The Word became flesh” — God’s Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, was made flesh and blood; He became a man. No greater message could ever be proclaimed to man.

- I. Christ became flesh (v. 14).
- II. Proof 1: Christ dwelt visibly among us (v. 14).
- III. Proof 2: John the Baptist bore witness to the superiority of Christ (v. 15).
- IV. Proof 3: Men have received the fullness and grace of Christ (vv. 16-17).
- V. Proof 4: God has revealed Himself through Christ (v. 18).

I. *John 01:14 The Incarnation of Jesus Christ*

Christ became flesh. The Incarnation did take place. The Son of God was actually made flesh. He came to earth in the person of Jesus Christ. There is no doubt about John’s meaning here.

The word “flesh” (sarx) is the same word that Paul used to describe man’s nature with all of its weakness and tendency to sin. This is a staggering thought. Jesus Christ is God — fully God, yet Jesus Christ is man — fully man. (1 Jn. 4:2-3.) The word “seen” (theasthai) means actually seeing with the human eye. It is used about twenty times in the New Testament. There is no room whatsoever for saying that God’s becoming a man was merely a vision of some man’s mind or imagination. John was saying that he and others actually saw the Word become flesh. Jesus Christ was beyond question God Himself who became man, who partook of the very same flesh as all other men. (1 Jn. 1:1-4.) (See *Flesh*, Jn. 1:14 for the meaning of “flesh” and why Jesus Christ had to become flesh.)

JOHN 01:14 FLESH

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. **John 01:14***

What does the Bible mean by “flesh”? And why did Jesus Christ have to become flesh? The best description of the flesh is probably found in 1 Cor. 15:42-44.

1. The flesh is corruptible and perishable.
 - a. The flesh is tainted, debased, ruined and depraved by sin (lust, 2 Pet. 1:4). There is a seed of corruption within human flesh; therefore, the flesh sins (lusts) and thereby ages, dies, deteriorates and decays. It does not live beyond a few years on this earth.

2 Pet 1:4 *Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

Gal 6:8 *The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.*

1 Cor 15:50 *I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.*

- b. Christ (the Word) became flesh to correct and to counteract the corruption of flesh.

2 Pet 1:4 *Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that through them you may participate in the divine nature and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.*

1 Pet 1:18-19, 23-25 *For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God. For, “All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.” And this is the word that was preached to you.*

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

2. The flesh is dishonourable.

- a. The flesh is not what God created it to be. It does not exist in the image of God that God intended. It does not hold the glory, the honour, nor the prestige it once did when God created it. It is disgraced and shamed, and it is reproached by sin and lust. It is held in the grip of sin and fear, and subject to being held in bondage — even the bondage of death.

Rom 7:18 *I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.*

Rom 1:28-32 *Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they are senseless, faithless,*

heartless, ruthless. Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

Rom 8:5-6 *Those who live according to the sinful nature have their minds set on what that nature desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace.*

- b. Jesus Christ became flesh to correct and counteract the dishonour of the flesh.

Heb 2:14-15 *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.*

Rom 5:8-10 *But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!*

3. The flesh is weak.

- a. The flesh is impotent. It is feeble, frail, fragile, infirmed, and decrepit because of lust and sin.

Rom 8:8 *Those controlled by the sinful nature [flesh] cannot please God.*

Rom 3:20 *Therefore no one will be declared righteous [justified] in his sight. (see Gal.2:16)*

John 6:63 *The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing.*

- b. Jesus Christ became flesh to correct and counteract the weakness of the flesh.

Rom 5:6 *You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.*

Rom 8:3 *For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man.*

4. The flesh is a natural body.

- a. The flesh is of the earth and is part of the earth; it is made up of the chemicals and substances of the earth. It is physical, material, animal. It is “the earthly house,” the “tabernacle,” the “tent,” which houses the human soul and spirit

(2 Cor. 5:1). It is neither spirit nor spiritual; therefore, it cannot live beyond the strength of the chemicals and substances that form its flesh.

1 Cor 15:50 *It cannot live beyond its natural life. I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.*

Luke 24:39 *“Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”*

1 Cor 15:44, 49 *It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being;” the last Adam, a life giving spirit. And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.*

- b. Jesus Christ became flesh to counteract the natural body of the flesh. He became flesh in order to become “a life-giving spirit”, the Saviour who could quicken and make alive all those who would trust Him (1 Cor. 15:45).

1 Pet 3:18 *For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.*

Rom 8:11 *And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.*

Eph 2:4-5 *But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions — it is by grace you have been saved. □*

II. John 01:14 Jesus Christ, The Absolute Embodiment of God

The first proof of the Incarnation is that Jesus Christ dwelt visibly among us.

1. God’s glory was seen (Previous note, *Incarnation* Jn. 1:14 for word “seen”). Two things are meant by the word “glory.”
 - a. Christ was the *Shekinah* glory of God. The word *Shekinah* means that which dwells or is dwelling. It refers to the *bright cloud* that God used to guide Israel out of Egypt and that rested upon the tabernacle and above the mercy seat in the Most Holy Place (Exo. 40:34-38). The cloud symbolized God’s presence, and that is just what John was saying. “We have seen”, the *Shekinah* glory, God’s very presence, “dwelling among us.”
 - b. Christ was the very embodiment of God, all that God is and does. John said “we have seen,” looked at Him, and could tell He was God. All that Jesus was in His person

and being, character and behaviour, was so enormously different. In person and behaviour, work and ministry He was...

- the very embodiment of “*grace and truth*”
- the perfect embodiment of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control
- the absolute embodiment of all that God could be

The glory of all that God was stood right before them, right in their very presence. They had seen Him with their very own eyes. Jesus Christ, the Man who dwelt among them, could be no other than the glory of God among men. It was clearly seen that “in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form” (Col. 2:9). The glory of His being...

- was the very glory God Himself would possess
- was the very glory God would give to His one and only Son (just as any father would give the best of his glory and all he is to a son)

A striking fact is that James, who was the Lord’s brother, even called Jesus “our glorious Lord Jesus Christ” or “the Lord of glory.” Just think: James was reared with Jesus beginning from the earliest years of childhood stretching right on through the years of adulthood. If anyone ever had an opportunity to see and observe Jesus, it was James. He had every chance to see some act of disobedience, some sin, something contrary to the nature of God. However, James’ testimony is: “Our glorious Lord Jesus Christ”. Jesus Christ is *the Lord of Glory*, the One in whom the very presence of God dwelt among us (Jas. 2:1).

The references in John dealing with glory are as follows: Jn. 2:11; 5:41; 7:18; 8:50, 54; 11:4; 12:41; 17:5, 22, 24.

2. Jesus Christ was full of grace and truth.
 - a. He was the very embodiment of grace (See *Grace*, Jn. 1:14).
 - b. He was the very embodiment of truth (See *Truth*, Jn. 14:6; See *Truth*, Jn. 8:32).

Isa 7:14 *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.*

Isa 9:6 *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Luke 1:31, 34-35 *You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”*

John 1:14 *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Rom 1:3 *Regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David.*

Rom 8:3 *For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man.*

Phil 2:7 *But made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.*

1 Tim 3:16 *Beyond all question, the mystery of godliness is great: He appeared in a body, was vindicated by the Spirit, was seen by angels, was preached among the nations, was believed on in the world, was taken up in glory.*

Heb 2:14 *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil.*

1 John 4:2 *This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God.*

2 John 1:7 *Many deceivers, who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh, have gone out into the world. Any such person is the deceiver and the antichrist.*

JOHN 01:14 GRACE

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. **John 01:14***

Grace is probably the most meaningful word in the language of men. In the Bible the word grace means far more than it does when men use it. To men the word grace means three things.

1. Grace is that quality within a thing that is beautiful or joyful. It may be the fragrance of a flower, the rich green of the grass, the beauty of a lovely person.
2. Grace is anything that has loveliness. It may be a thought, an act, a word, a person.
3. Grace is a gift, a favour that someone might extend to a friend. The favour is always freely done, expecting nothing in return. The favour is always done to a friend.

However, when the early Christians looked at what God had done for men, they had to add a deeper, much richer meaning to the word grace. God had saved sinners, those who had acted against Him. Therefore, grace became the favour of God showered upon men — men who did not deserve His favour. Grace became the kindness and love that dwells within the very nature of God, the kindness and love that God freely gives to His *enemies*.

No other word so expresses the depth and richness of the heart and mind of God. This is the distinctive difference between God's grace and man's grace. Whereas man sometimes does favours for his friends and thereby can be said to be gracious, God has done a thing unheard of among men: He has given His very own Son to die for His *enemies* (Rom. 5:8-10). In this act He has done something that shows He is the perfect embodiment of grace, full...

- of beauty and joy
- of loveliness and goodness
- of favours freely given
- of kindness and love freely demonstrated ☐

JOHN 14:06 JESUS THE TRUTH

*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." **John 14:06***

There is a difference between telling someone about the truth and living the truth before them. The one who lives the truth literally becomes the truth.

1. Jesus Christ is the *Embodiment* of truth (Jn. 14:6). He is the picture of truth. God not only talks to man about Himself, God shows man what He is like in the person of Jesus Christ. Man can look at Jesus Christ and see a perfect picture of the truth of God.

John 10:30 *"I and the Father are one."*

John 10:37-38 *"Do not believe me unless I do what my Father does. But if I do it, even though you do not believe me, believe the miracles, that you may know and understand that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."*

John 14:10 *"Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work."*

John 17:11 *I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name — the name you gave me — so that they may be one as we are one.*

2. Jesus Christ is the *Communicator* of truth. He Himself — His Person and His Life — makes things perfectly clear. He reveals the ultimate source and meaning and end of all things. He reveals the truth of man himself and of the world surrounding man. He shows man the right way to the truth, and He enables man to choose the right way to the truth.

John 3:11 *“I tell you the truth, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.”*

John 3:23 *Now John also was baptising at Aenon near Salim, because there was plenty of water, and people were constantly coming to be baptised.*

John 3:34 *For the one whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God gives the Spirit without limit.*

John 5:24 *“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life.”*

John 6:63 *“The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.”*

John 6:68 *Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”*

John 8:14 *Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going.”*

John 14:24 *“He who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.”*

John 17:8 *“For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me.”*

John 17:14 *“I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world.”*

John 18:37 *“You are a king, then!” said Pilate. Jesus answered, “You are right in saying I am a king. In fact, for this reason I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”*

Rev 1:5 *And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the first-born from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.*

3. Jesus Christ is the *Liberator* of truth (Jn. 8:32; 15:3). He sets men free from the great gulf (estrangement) which exists between man and God, between man and his world, and between man and man. He sets man free from the frustrations which he constantly experiences. He frees man from the fears and weaknesses and defects that plague him. Jesus Christ is the only lasting Liberator on earth. (See *Truth*, Jn. 8:32).

John 8:32 *“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

John 15:3 *“You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.” □*

JOHN 08:32 TRUTH

“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 08:32

Moral truth, saving truth, working truth, living truth. It is not simply something to be *known*; it is something to be *done* (Jn. 8:31). It is the knowledge and the experience of true reality as opposed to false reality. It is truth in “the inner parts” (see Psa. 51:6; Eph. 5:9). It is diametrically opposed to sham and hypocrisy. It permits no compromise with evil. It even abstains from the appearance of evil (1 Th. 5:22). It is a regard for truth in every respect: believing it, reverencing it, speaking it, acting it, hoping in it, and rejoicing in it. Such truthful behaviour frees a person from all the bondages and impediments of life. (See *Truth*, Jn. 1:9.)

John 7:16-17 *Jesus answered, “My teaching is not my own. It comes from him who sent me. If anyone chooses to do God’s will, he will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own.”*

John 8:31-32 *To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

Phil 3:10 *I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death.*

Col 1:10 *And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God.*

Hosea 6:3 *“Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.”*

God’s Word is said to be the Truth (Jn. 17:17), and Jesus Christ Himself claimed to be the Truth (Jn. 14:6). To distinguish between the two, God’s Word is sometimes said to be the *Written Truth*, and Jesus Christ is sometimes said to be the *Living Truth*.

1. The truth sets men free from the shadow of doubt and despair. Man no longer has to grasp and grope about to know the truth, whether it be the truth of God or of his own world. Jesus Christ has revealed the truth: the nature, the meaning, and the destiny of all things.

John 1:9, 14 *The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

2 Cor 3:17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

2. The truth sets men free from the bondage of sin. Man no longer has to grasp after the power to overcome; nor does he have to struggle against the weight of guilt. The search for deliverance and for the power to conquer, to overcome, to attain, and to live is now over. It is all found in Jesus Christ. (See Rom. 6:1f; 8:28-39)

John 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Rom 7:23-25 But I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God — through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in the sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

Rom 8:6, 15 The mind of sinful man is death, but the mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace; For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father."

3. The truth sets men free from the bondage of death. Man no longer has to be subjected to the fear of death. Jesus Christ — by His death and resurrection — has now conquered death (Heb. 2:14-15). In His death and resurrection man now has the most glorious of hopes: he can now live eternally.

John 5:24-29 "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. I tell you the truth, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man. Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out — those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned."

Rom 8:2 Because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

Heb 2:14-15 Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death — that is, the devil — and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

4. The truth sets men free from the bondage of judgment and hell. The darkness of an unknown future and the apprehension of an impending judgment constantly faces man. At best, man can only hope for annihilation, and he shudders at the thought. At worst, he can expect torture by the gods that be, and he trembles at the possibility. But Jesus Christ has revealed the truth. He Himself has borne the judgment and the punishment of judgment for man.

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

Rom 5:6, 8-9 *You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God’s wrath through him!*

1 Pet 2:24 *He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.*

1 Pet 3:18 *For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit.*

5. The truth sets men free to be saved to the uttermost. Existence, love, joy, peace, satisfaction, pleasure, hope — nothing has to be incomplete any longer. No good thing ever again has to be denied man. Jesus Christ, the Truth, is able to save man to the uttermost — completely, perfectly, finally, and eternally. All a person has to do is to come to Christ for salvation, for Christ lives forever to intercede for every man.

Heb 7:25 *Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.*

Gal 5:22-23 *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.*

Col 2:9-10 *For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. □*

JOHN 01:09 TRUTH

The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

John 01:09

The words true, truth, and real are taken from two Greek words very much alike. But each has a different shade of meaning.

1. “Alethes” means true, the opposite of false.

2. “Alethinos” means the true, the genuine, the real. It is the *opposite* of the unreal, the fictitious, the counterfeit, the imaginary. It is also the opposite of the imperfect, defective, frail, uncertain.

Jesus Christ is seen as the true, the real, the genuine life which has come to give light to every man. □

III. *John 01:15 The Witness of John the Baptist*

The second proof of the Incarnation is John the Baptist. He, too, bore witness to the Incarnation. John said very simply...

- Jesus was born “after me” (6 months after).
- But He has “surpassed me” (mightier; more important in being, rank, and dignity).
- Why? Because “He was before me.”

The words *because He was before me* (hoti protos mou en) literally mean *first to me* or *first of me*. It refers both to time and importance. Jesus Christ was first in time, existing before John. He existed “in the beginning” — throughout all eternity. John proclaimed, “He was before me”: He always existed; He was the First; He was the very cause for John’s existence. John also declared that Jesus was first in importance. He was first in superiority, Being, Person. His very name is the First and the Last, the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.

Isa 44:6 This is what the Lord says — Israel’s King and Redeemer, the Lord Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.

Rev 22:13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. (see Rev. 1:8; 21:6; Isa. 44:6)

IV. *John 01:16–17 The Fullness of Grace*

The third proof of the Incarnation is the fullness and grace of Christ which was given to us. Genuine believers can testify to this.

The word *fullness* (pleroma) means that which fills, the sum total, the totality. It is the sum total of all that is in God (Col. 1:19). In Jesus dwelt all the wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption — all the abundance of God (1 Cor. 1:30). All that Christ is, the very fullness of His being, is given to us who believe - all His “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (Gal. 5:22-23). We are complete in Him.

Col 2:9-10 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

The term “one blessing after another” means that He gives grace enough to meet all our needs, no matter the circumstances. It is one blessing leading to another blessing;

new wonders dawning upon one's consciousness every day; fresh experiences constantly springing into one's life.

Note that the fullness of God, His grace and truth, does not come by the law, but by Jesus Christ. It does not come...

- by being as good as we can be
- by working to please God as much as we can
- by keeping the rules and commandments of the law

It does not come through law, for no man can keep the law to any degree of perfection. The law only points out a man's failure and condemns him for breaking the law. If a man is to be acceptable to God, it is because he comes and keeps on coming to God, begging God to forgive him; and because God loves him so much that he forgives the man.

Such is the grace, the undeserved favour of God. God's grace comes through Jesus Christ, and we would not know the grace of God unless Jesus Christ had come to reveal it to us. The glorious fact that we do experience the fullness of God and His grace is proof of the Incarnation (that God did become flesh in the person of Jesus Christ).

Titus 2:11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

Titus 3:4-7 But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

Acts 15:11 No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.

Rom 3:23-24 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Eph 2:8-9 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast.

V. *John 01:18* God's Revelation Through Jesus Christ

The fourth proof of the Incarnation is Christ — God's Son. He alone has seen God. No man has seen God at any time: however, Jesus Christ claimed...

- that He was "the one and only Son of God" (Jn. 3:16).
- that He had come from "the Father's side" (from the deepest part, the most intimate place, the most honourable fellowship) (Jn. 1:18).
- that He had come to reveal and to proclaim the Father (See *Jesus the Way*, Jn. 14:6; *Jesus the Truth*, Jn. 14:6; and *Jesus the Life*, Jn. 14:6).

The fact that Jesus Christ is “God the one and only, who is at the Father’s side” is proof of the Incarnation (that God became flesh). Jesus Christ declared unequivocally that He had come from God. A man either believes or does not believe the grace and truth of God as revealed in Jesus Christ. ■

JOHN 14:06 JESUS THE WAY

*Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” **John 14:06***

There is a difference between pointing the way to a particular place and taking someone by the hand to lead him there. The person who guides someone to his destination literally becomes the way himself. Jesus Christ not only points out how to walk through life and how to reach God, He personally shows the person the way. Therefore, He Himself is the Way. Note the repetition of the word “way” (v. 4, 5, 6).

***Heb 10:19-20** Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body. □*

JOHN 14:06 JESUS THE LIFE

*Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” **John 14:06***

There is a difference between telling someone about life and actually living life. The one who lives is the one who possesses life, and the more perfectly one lives, the more life one possesses. Jesus Christ lived perfectly; therefore, He possesses life perfectly. He is the Life: the very embodiment, energy, force, and source of life itself.

***John 1:4** In him was life, and that life was the light of men.*

***John 10:10** “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”*

***John 11:25** Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies.*

***Rom 5:21** So that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

***2 Tim 1:10** But it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. □*