

# The Word of God

## Word of God: Four Forms

### 1. The Person: Jesus Christ

- a. Revelation 19:13 – Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. 13 He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. 14 And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses.
- b. John 1:1 – “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- c. John 1:14 – “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son[d] 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.’”)

### 2. Speech by God

- a. God’s Decrees
  - i. Genesis 1:3 – “And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.
- b. Personal Address
  - i. Adam – Genesis 2:16-17
  - ii. The curse – Genesis 3:16-19
  - iii. Ten Commandments – Exodus 20:1-3 – “And God spoke all these words, saying, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. ‘You shall have no other gods before me.’ “
  - iv. At Jesus’ Baptism – Matthew 3:17 – “Behold, a voice from heaven said, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.’ ”

### 3. Speech through Human Lips

- a. Deuteronomy 18:18-20 – “
- b. Jeremiah 1:7 and 1:9 – “
- c. Exodus 4:12 – “
- d. Numbers 22:38 – “
- e. 1 Samuel 15:3, 18, 23 – “Samuel said to Saul, “The Lord sent me to anoint you king over his people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the Lord. 2 Thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘I have noted what Amalek did to Israel in opposing them on the way when they came up out of Egypt. 3 Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction[a] all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’ ”
- f. Isaiah 30:12-14 – “Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, “Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them,…”
- g. Punished those claiming to have God’s Word, but they did not – Ezekiel 13:1-7 – “The word of the Lord came to me: 2 “Son of man, prophesy against the prophets of Israel,

who are prophesying, and say to those who prophesy from their own hearts: 'Hear the word of the Lord!' 3 Thus says the Lord God, Woe to the foolish prophets who follow their own spirit, and have seen nothing!..."

#### 4. Written Form (Bible)

- a. Two tablets of Stone
  - i. Exodus 31:18 – “
  - ii. Exodus 32:16 – “
  - iii. Exodus 34:2
- b. Law
  - i. Deuteronomy 31:9-13
  - ii. Deuteronomy 31:24-26
- c. Joshua wrote – Joshua 24:26 – “And Joshua wrote these words in the Book of the Law of God. And he took a large stone and set it up there under the terebinth that was by the sanctuary of the Lord. 27 And Joshua said to all the people, “Behold, this stone shall be a witness against us, for it has heard all the words of the Lord that he spoke to us. Therefore it shall be a witness against you, lest you deal falsely with your God.””
- d. Jeremiah wrote – Jeremiah 30:2 (36:2-4; 51:60) –
- e. Jesus told disciple the Holy Spirit would bring his words to their remembrance:
  - i. John 14:26 – “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”
  - ii. John 16:12-13 – “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.
- f. Paul
  - i. 1 Corinthians 14:37 – “If anyone thinks that he is a prophet, or spiritual, he should acknowledge that the things I am writing to you are a command of the Lord. 38 If anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.”
  - ii. 2 Peter 3:2 – “This is now the second letter that I am writing to you, beloved. In both of them I am stirring up your sincere mind by way of reminder, 2 that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles.”
  - iii. 2 Peter 3:15-16 – “Count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, 16 as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.”

- g. Others wrote God's Word in WRITTEN FORM that are in the Canon of Scripture:
- i. 1 Samuel 10:25 – “Then Samuel told the people the rights and duties of the kingship, and he wrote them in a book and laid it up before the Lord. Then Samuel sent all the people away, each one to his home.
  - ii. 1 Chronicles 29:29 – “Now the acts of King David, from first to last, are written in the Chronicles of Samuel the seer, and in the Chronicles of Nathan the prophet, and in the Chronicles of Gad the seer, 30 with accounts of all his rule and his might and of the circumstances that came upon him and upon Israel and upon all the kingdoms of the countries.
  - iii. 2 Chronicles 20:34 – “Now the rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat, from first to last, are written in the chronicles of Jehu the son of Hanani, which are recorded in the Book of the Kings of Israel.”
  - iv. 1 Kings 16:7 – “Moreover, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Jehu the son of Hanani against Baasha and his house, both because of all the evil that he did in the sight of the Lord, provoking him to anger with the work of his hands, in being like the house of Jeroboam, and also because he destroyed it.”
  - v. Jeremiah 30:2 – “The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: 2 “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Write in a book all the words that I have spoken to you.

Scripture was closed about 435 BC. This is supported by the people living during this time:

1. 1 Maccabees 4:45-46 – “They deliberated what to do about the altar of burnt offering, which had been profaned. 45 And they thought it best to tear it down, so that it would not be a lasting shame to them that the nations had defiled it. So they tore down the altar 46 and stored the stones in a convenient place on the temple hill until a prophet should come to tell what to do with them.”
2. 1 Maccabees 9:27 – “So there was great distress in Israel such as had not been since the time a prophet had last appeared among them.”
3. 1 Maccabees 14:4 – ““The Jews and their priests have resolved that Simon should be their leader and high priest forever, until a trustworthy prophet should arise.”
4. Josephus recorded  
 “For we have not an innumerable multitude of books among us, disagreeing from and contradicting one another, [as the Greeks have,] but only twenty-two books, 8 which contain the records of all the past times; which are justly believed to be divine; and of them five belong to Moses, which contain his laws and the traditions of the origin of mankind till his death. This interval of time was little short of three thousand years; but as to the time from the death of Moses till the reign of Artaxerxes king of Persia, who reigned after Xerxes, the prophets, who were after Moses, wrote down what was done in their times in thirteen books. The remaining four books contain hymns to God, and precepts for the conduct of human life. It is true, our history hath been written since Artaxerxes very particularly, but hath not been esteemed of the like authority with the former by our forefathers, because there hath not been an exact succession of prophets since that time; and how firmly we have given credit to these books of our own nation is evident by what we do; for during so many ages as have already

passed, no one has been so bold as either to add anything to them, to take anything from them, or to make any change in them; but it is become natural to all Jews immediately, and from their very birth, to esteem these books to contain Divine doctrines, and to persist in them, and, if occasion be willingly to die for them.” (from “Against Apion”, book one)

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2 Peter 1:16-20 -

“For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. 17 For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,” 18 we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. 19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

Word of God is called:

- The Word of God
- The Word of Jesus
- The Word of Christ
- The Word of the Lord
- The Gospel (Romans 1:1; 15:16)
- The Word of Truth (Col. 1:5)
- The Word of Reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:19)
- The Word of Salvation (Acts 13:26)
- The Word of the Cross (1 Cor. 1:18)

John 6:63 – “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life.”

John 10:35 – “Jesus answered them, “Is it not written in your Law, ‘I said, you are gods’? 35 If he called them gods to whom the word of God came—and **Scripture cannot be broken**— 36 do you say of him whom the Father consecrated and sent into the world, ‘You are blaspheming,’ because I said, ‘I am the Son of God’? 37 If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me;

2 Timothy 3:16 – “All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God[b] may be complete, equipped for every good work.”

Hebrews 4:12 – “For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”