

## Celebrate the Light

By Santiago Lange

In Greek the term for "word" is logos. It is used in many places, but of special interest is how it is used of Jesus. In John 1:1 it says, *"In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God."* The Word is divine and the word *"became flesh and dwelt among us"* (John 1:14). In other words, Jesus is the Word of God who represents God to us and us to God.



When we desire to communicate something to someone, we speak. We must convey our thoughts in the form of words. Words express what is on our heart. God the Father refers to His Son as "The Word" because the way the Father communicates His love for you and me is through His only begotten Son, the Word. He came from the bosom of the Father to the bosom of a woman. He became the Son of Man that we might become the Sons of God. He was born contrary to the laws of nature, lived in humility, and was raised in obscurity. His relatives were inconspicuous and unimportant. In infancy, He startled a king, in boyhood He puzzled the learned doctors. He healed the multitudes and made no charge for His services.

Throughout history, great men have come and gone, yet He lives on. Herod could not kill Him, the evil one could not seduce Him. Death could not destroy Him and the grave could not hold Him. This is our Christ and this is our Jesus.

In the 70's the pop duo Simon and Garfunkel had a song called "The Sounds of Silence." A line in that song says..."Hello darkness, my old friend, I've come to talk with you again." That is a vivid and accurate description of the way many people feel today, they are living in continual darkness blinded to the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ. But Jesus wants to be the light in our lives. He's come to deliver humanity from oppressing darkness.

Light is a major theme in the Bible. The Bible says in 1 John 1:5 "God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." The very first command that God gave in Genesis account was, "Let there be light: and there was light (Genesis 1:3)". It was the appearance of God in the burning bush that got Moses attention (Exodus 3:2). Exodus 13:21 "And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night" (Exodus 13:21). Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: he that follows me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (John 8:12)". In John 12:46 Jesus said, "I have come as a light to shine in this dark world, so that all who put their trust in me will no longer wander in darkness."

Everybody has dark days. At times we don't feel like getting out of bed. We don't always really want to face the world. We might feel like it's not worth the effort. We don't want to see anybody. Sometimes these dark days are progressive in nature. First there is disappointment,

followed by distress, doubt and depression. We probably can all relate to at least one of these feelings. However, if we walk in the light of God's love Jesus, the Living Word, will shed His light on these dark days, brighten them and make them bearable. Light can shine the brightest in the darkest night.

No matter what our trials, sorrows, or joys at this moment in our lives, the Incarnation throws all of that into the shadow. GOD entered this world as a man. *And if we know and believe that and have ordered our lives in keeping with that fact, then we are in living touch with the very Power and center of the universe.*

Yes, people speak words all the time. But we can't always believe everything we hear. There are false words, and then there are true words. But, God the Father not only said that He loves us, He *acted* upon it. He sent His Son. God's *Word* became flesh. Jesus reveals the glory of God. In the Bible "glory" often means the bright shining light, which was seen when God was present in a special way. It also means the perfection and excellence of God.

Let's celebrate *THE Light* that has come into the world! □