

January 3, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: It is Finished, A Calling out!

When Jesus cried out from the cross, John recorded this statement saying, "it is finished". Why did Jesus cry this out, and what did it mean? We want to examine this statement from the Genesis narrative through to the Apostle Paul and his writings concerning the life we live in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 10:8-12; 11:1-9

Mat 27:50 Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

Mar 15:37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice and gave up the ghost.

Luk 23:46 And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, he said, ***Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit***: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.

Joh 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, ***It is finished***: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Romans 5:1-21

Through Adam all die, through Jesus all are made alive, what does this mean and how do we understand what Paul was talking about.

Philippians 3:1-21

Philippians 3:14 what is Paul speaking to when he writes, "not yet attained or obtained". Pressing towards the mark of the high calling of Jehovah, found in Christ Jesus?

- Adam walked out or transgressed the "REST" of Jehovah.
- Creation was completed or perfected.
- Adversary redefines perfection and its completion, convincing Adam to pursue his own perfection.
  - o This is what we are seeing in the world today – New World Order
  - o A singular consciousness defining the existence of mankind - Artificial intelligence or man-made intelligence.
  - o Mankind becomes the creator and giver of life.

Hebrews 4:1-16

Google Search

the singularity

How does humanity fit into the singularity?

<https://www.discovermagazine.com/technology/the-singularity-will-redefine-what-it-means-to-be-human-and-machine>

February 7, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: First Century Christianity, what do we know? 1 Corinthians 1:1-31

What do we know about the first century body of believers? It has been approximately some two thousand years or better since Jesus ascended to the Father and sat at his right hand. Does the current “church” reflect those believers of the first century or have we become simply a caricature filled with bloated doctrine and rituals. The best record we have of those believers in the first century is the bible, and we have changed the dialogue so much, how do we recognize what is being said in these accounts passed down to us? We will also look at some extra-biblical record to see just what we can understand about how we got here.

1. Doctrine?

- a. Religion – Correction
- b. <https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/12738a.htm>
- c. <https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=religion>
- d. Doctrine
- e. <https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=doctrine>
- f. [https://www.etymonline.com/word/doctor#etymonline\\_v\\_13880](https://www.etymonline.com/word/doctor#etymonline_v_13880)
- g. Educate
- h. <https://www.etymonline.com/search?q=educate>

<https://www.worldhistory.org/article/1205/early-christianity/>

<http://www.differencebetween.net/miscellaneous/difference-between-education-and-indoctrination/>

March 6, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Century writings, how did it shape Christianity?

Through the late first century and early into the middle second century the discourse of repentance had seemed to long since disappear from the preaching of the good news. Many of the records we have today are filled with apologies and writings against heresies. To understand what has happened, and how Christianity has been shaped into the institution it is, we have to look at those who shaped the culture and moved us to the adulteration with the man of lawlessness.

1. Polycarp – 65 to 100 – Disciple of John Writing according to the scripture.
2. Ignatius – 30 to 107 – Disciple of John – Ephesians 1 & 2
3. Mathetes – Epistle to Diognetus – Chap V

Justin believed that the whole of Christianity was given in Greek philosophy but not grasped by those early philosophers, but Heraclitus, Socrates, and Plato all carried the divine logos or reason.

Athenagoras – Chapter IV – The Christians are not Atheists but Acknowledge One Only God. Read Chapter VI as well concerning Plato and the uncreated God who framed all things by the Logos,

History of the Christian Church Vol. 1 Chap 1 – Philip Schaff 1882

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/history-of-early-Christianity>

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Philip-Schaff>

April 3, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Plato and Christianity

Colossians 2:6-15

Cities of Revelation: Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea

Britannica: Plato was born 428 or 427 BCE in Athens, Greece, died 348 or 347 in Athens.

A student of Socrates and teacher of Aristotle and founder of the Academy.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Plato>

*Academy, in ancient Greece, the academy, or college, of philosophy in the northwestern outskirts of Athens where Plato acquired property about 387 bce and used to teach. At the site there had been an olive grove, a park, and a gymnasium sacred to the legendary Attic hero Academus (or Hecademus). The designation Academy, as a school of philosophy, is usually applied not to Plato's immediate circle but to his successors down to the Roman Cicero's time (106–43 bce). Legally, the school was a corporate body organized for worship of the Muses. The scholar (headmaster) was elected for life by a majority vote of the members. Most scholars infer, mainly from Plato's writings, that instruction originally included mathematics, dialectics, natural science, and preparation for statesmanship. The Academy continued until 529 ce, when the emperor Justinian closed it, together with the other pagan schools.*

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Academy-ancient-academy-Athens-Greece>

<https://www.cambridgeblog.org/2021/01/christianity-platonism-how-one-of-the-worlds-most-important-religions-was-shaped-by-one-of-its-most-influential-philosophies/>

<https://credomag.com/article/christian-platonism-a-history/>

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/christiantheology-philosophy/>

<https://theimaginativeconservative.org/2018/12/logos-heraclitus-eva-brann-90.html>

<https://modernstoicism.com/heraclitus-and-the-birth-of-the-logos/>

May 1, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Effects of Platonism on ante-Nicene Christianity

Prior to, and after, the Council at Nicaea the most important topic was that of 'reason'. This sounds innocuous on the surface.

Joh 1:1) In the beginning **exists** (was) **reason** (the Word), and **reason** (the Word) **exists** (was) with God, and **reason** (the Word) **exists** (was) God. 2) The same was in the beginning with God. 3) All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. 4) In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5) And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

This is everyone's go to when discussing the topic of 'the logos' within the biblical accounts found in what we call the New Testament.

G3056 λόγος logos log'-os

From G3004; something said (including the thought); by implication a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension a computation; specifically (with the article in John) the Divine Expression (that is, Christ): - account, cause, communication, X concerning, doctrine, fame, X have to do, intent, matter, mouth, preaching, question, reason, + reckon, remove, say (-ing), shew, X speaker, speech, talk, thing, + none of these things move me, tidings, treatise, utterance, word, work. Total KJV occurrences: 330

G3004 λέγω legō leg'-o

A primary verb; properly to "lay" forth, that is, (figuratively) relate (in words [usually of systematic or set discourse; whereas G2036 and G5346 generally refer to an individual expression or speech respectively; while G4483 is properly to break silence merely, and G2980 means an extended or random harangue]); by implication to mean: - ask, bid, boast, call, describe, give out, name, put forth, say (-ing, on), shew, speak, tell, utter. Total KJV occurrences: 1343

Joh 1:1) In the beginning the One who **exists** (was) related his **reason** (the Word), and **reason** (the Word) **exists** (was) with God, and **reason** (the Word) **exists** (was) God.

Joh 1:1) In the beginning the One who exists laid forth his plan, and the reason for his plan existed near to the One who exists, and this foundation agrees with the One who Exists.

I have never claimed to be a linguistics expert, or hold any degrees in any such field. What I see for the most part in these endeavors is a forensic analytical inspection of the dialects of the ancient world. I would say much of the theological world works to find the meaning behind the dialect to express the biblical narrative. But how can you express the biblical narrative from language of a culture outside of where it originated? What we call the New Testament manuscripts we have are in the Greek dialect, but I would argue not from the Greek language or culture.

There are people who like to make Paul into a Hellenist. Which is simply means being Greek, as in the world at that time Greeks were known as [Hellenists](#). The language of the biblical narrative is Hebrew, regardless even though the manuscripts we have today are of the Greek dialect, they do not reflect the

language of Classical Greek or of Hellenistic period that followed. But, this is what we have done which led up to the outcome that came with the Council convened by Constantine I at his summer home in Nicaea. The language of Christianity was formally changed from the Hebrew to that of the Greek and its foundation was changed. What Jesus came to reconcile was utterly destroyed and the foundations of existence were again within the rebellion of the knowledge of good and evil.

This is also significant as the Hebrews had fell victim to the same hiss in 200 BCE when a group of seventy-two Rabbis were commissioned by King Ptolemy!! Philadelphus of Egypt to translate the Torah only. [The Origins of the Septuagint](#)

References:

1. [Philo of Alexandria – Early Jewish Writings](#)
2. [How was Justin influenced by Platonism, and how came from Phil of Alexandria?](#)
3. [The Influence of Platonism on the Early Apologists – Thomas E. Gaston 6/8/2009](#)
4. [Plato's Myth – Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy](#)

June 5, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Post Nicene Christianity

From the first male and female, to Israel, the only constant is Jesus. He is the only one who resisted the narrative of the beast. Since that time those who were called out by Jesus to emulate his way to the Father and resist the beast's temptation of the adversary's knowledge of good and evil have failed and brought the consequences of death upon mankind. Post Nicene Christianity reveals to us the consequence of the man of lawlessness and the prostitution of the woman to the beast. I am reminded of the words of Jehovah to the people of Israel in the desert, "See, I have set before thee this day life and good, and death and evil." (Duet. 30:15) This is reference to the decision that was made in the garden by the woman who was seduced by the beast, as we read in the third chapter of Genesis.

Mind you this is not at all a belief that Jehovah put the knowledge of good and evil in front of the first man and woman. It was there because of an adversary that came against Jehovah, and decided to tempt the image and likeness of Jehovah that was mankind. What is interesting about this reference in John's revelation is that the adversary had been chained and the keys to death and the grave taken by Jesus.

So, what do we understand about these encounters and the references to life and good, and to death, and evil?

***Deu 30:16) In that I command thee this day to love the LORD thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that thou mayest live and multiply: and the LORD thy God shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to possess it. (Genesis 1:28) 17) But if thine heart turn away, so that thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship other gods, and serve them; 18) I denounce unto you this day, that ye shall surely perish, (Genesis 2:17) and that ye shall not prolong your days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go to possess it. 19) I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: 20) That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.***

Revelation 2 & 3, What Jesus revealed to John was the opportunity that again was set before men, as it was in the desert to Israel, that the door of life was again open to mankind, and we had to choose between life and the good (function), or death and evil (dysfunction). Post Nicene history shows us what men have chosen and the consequences of this action that is laid out in the revelation given to John. When the man of lawlessness came, representing the same beast and his question to the woman in the garden, "(1) did God say, you shall not eat of every tree of the garden?... (4) you shall not surely die: (5) for God knows in the day you eat of the tree, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

Athanasius called Arius a polytheist due to his claim that Jesus is God the Son but created. So, Trinity, because is God is one in three persons, co-equal and co-eternal, these three persons are one person.

<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/cults-and-other-religions/arianism-heresy.html>

<https://www.wilmingtonfavs.com/philosophical-theology/logos-christology.html>

<https://www.christian-history.org/post-nicene.html>

July 3, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Dark Ages & Charlemagne the Great

August 7, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Aristotle, Aquinas, and Christianity

September 4, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Science & Christianity – Early bible translations

October 2, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Human Flourishing - The Renaissance – Rebirth of humanism

November 6, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Renaissance & Christianity

December 4, 2024

Subject: Changing the Dialogue

Title: Enlightenment & Christianity