

Study - each successive generation of evangelicals is getting more liberal

“[Alex] McFarland goes on to note that “one rarely sees a kid go off to college and slowly become more conservative. The law of entropy, he says, applies to matters of faith as well as to physics: left to its own, a Christian's faith will naturally descend into the chaos of liberalism.””

Messiah – *in 18 verses*

John 1: 1-18

In the beginning was the Word...

Messiah – in 18 verses

Word

John 1: 1-18

creator

life

light

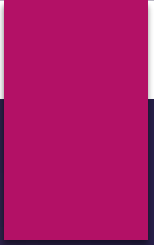
flesh

glory

grace

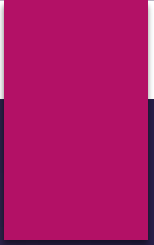
truth

God



Logos (log'-os); 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 (i.e. Christ)

Strong's Greek Concordance, Nestle-Aland 27th Edition Greek New Testament



*En arche ēn ho Logos,
kai ho Logos ēn pros ton Theon,
kai Theos ēn o Logos*

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God:
and God was the Word.

Bodmer Papyrus P66, P75 c200AD



How could such a one be a mere man...

For “in the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.”

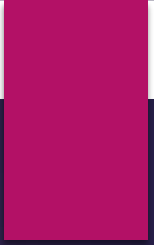
St Ignatius – Letter to the Tarsians (c 110)



in principio erat Verbum
et Verbum erat apud Deum
et Deus erat Verbum

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God:
and God was the Word.

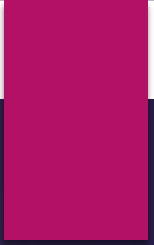
Latin Vulgate c400AD



In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

WYCLIFFE (1380), TYNDALE (1520)

NIV, NKJV, KJV, NAS, ISV, ESV, NCV, CJB, RSV, TEV, NET, ASV, ++



In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was a god.

New World Translation (c1960)
Jehovah's Witnesses

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

The 8th article of faith says “We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.”

“IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE GOSPEL PREACHED THROUGH THE SON.
AND THE GOSPEL WAS THE WORD.
AND THE WORD WAS WITH THE SON,
AND THE SON WAS WITH GOD, AND THE SON WAS OF GOD,”

JOSEPH SMITH TRANSLATION (c1830)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

...it is by grace we are saved,
after all we can do

Book of Mormon
II Nephi 25:23

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.

Ephesians 2:8

The Christ dwelt forever an idea in the bosom of God,
the divine Principle of the man Jesus (pg29)

Jesus is the name of the man who, more than all other men,
has presented Christ, the true idea of God...Jesus is the
human man, and Christ is the divine idea, hence the
duality of Jesus the Christ (pg 473)

Church of Christ, Scientist (Christian Science)
Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures
Mary Baker Eddy c1870



Gnosticism – special (secret) knowledge for salvation

Mind/Spirit = good (no sin), eternal

Matter/Body = evil (sin), temporary

The Christ dwelt forever an idea in the bosom of God,
the divine Principle of the man Jesus (pg29)

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One sacrifice, however great, is insufficient to pay the debt of sin. That God's wrath should be vented upon his beloved son, is divinely unnatural. Such a theory is man-made. (pg 23)

His disciples believed Jesus to be dead while he was hidden in the sepulchre, whereas he was alive

“We were reconciled to God by the [seeming] death of his son”
(Romans 5:10) (pg 44-45)

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures
Mary Baker Eddy c1870