

John 41 – Logos of Christ or Darkness of Sin

Dr. Leon L. Sanders
John 12:37-50

Christ's Last Public Discourse

- This is Christ's last public discourse as He explains why they do not believe
 - They reject His words (λόγος) – His message from Father
 - Man's Logos cannot understand God's Logos – Foolishness to sinful man (1Co 2:14)
 - Man's Logos is darkness — Lake of Fire is darkness (Mt 22:11-14)
 - God's Logos is Light, Christ is Light, believers are lights (Mt 5:14-16, Jn 8:12)

They Were Not Believing in Him

- Regardless of the signs performed many did not believe Jesus or His message: Why?
 - Isaiah's calling appears to indicate God is preventing them from believing; contradicts Jesus' words (Is 3:16)
 - Christ then says the Word (Logos) will judge unbelievers
- Answer contained in the Opening Hymn: Logos (Jn 1:1)

Logos: More Than Just a Word

- Logos - Translated as Word, is a system of knowing
 - Foundational source (God) of self, truth, and morality
 - System of analysis and synthesis (logic) guiding (thinking)
 - Inward conclusions are the basis of words and behaviors
 - Words become utterances, statements, theses
- Logos is one's state of being; i.e., one's worldview

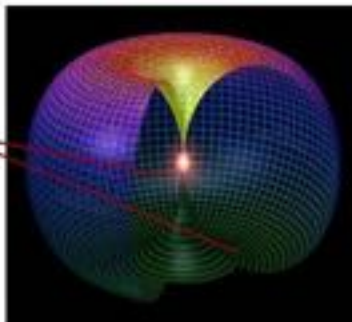
*Many authorities believe John was writing to dispel Gnosticism;
however, I believe John was writing about the basic difference
between Righteous God and sinful Lucifer and man*

In the Beginning was the Logos

- John does not contradict Genesis but expands upon it
 - Genesis begins with God (Jesus) and physical creation
 - John states the invisible determined the visible (Jn 1:3)
- Father's Logos basis of Heaven and earth
- Man created in God's Logos but man chose to follow fleshly logos; inseparably linked to physical creation

God's Logos - Spiritual Fruits (Jn 5:22-29)

- Source of all creation
- Concentric shape depict God's nature; i.e., Logos
- Light is the Father
- Son has Father's Logos also as do Christians



Man's Logos - Covetousness

- Self-centered system - Sin
- Man's logos defined by his flesh and limited by physical creation (Ro 1:18-23)
- Man center of his logos
- Works of the flesh (Ga 5:19-21)



Analysis of Isaiah's Statement

- Isaiah's mission was to teach God's message though few would believe because they rejected God's Logos: blinded and hardened (Is 6:9-10)
 - As translated into English it appears God actively prevents people from accepting Christ as Savior
 - This means God judges man unjustly
 - This analysis flows from Man's Logos (Theodicy)

Ignorance Ignores Grammar

- Avoid ignorance of original language grammar
 - Blinded (τετύφλωκεν) - Perfect, Active, Indicative means that at some point in the past man was blinded to God and this blindness continues into the present
 - Was there some event that caused man's blindness?
 - God warned man not to eat of Tree of Knowledge (Ge 2:16)
 - Man ate, sinned and gained knowledge of his own evil (Ge 3:1-13; He 5:12-14)

Blinding: Change of Logos

- Man, following the flesh, chose to be as god (De 3:4-5; Is 14:13-15)
 - Man rejected God's Logos for his own logos - Sin
 - Man actually chose Lucifer's Logos, now their father (Is 8:10-15)
- Man's blindness was the changed source of Logos
 - Result: spiritual death as God warned (Irreversible)
 - All are born in sin and thus blinded at conception (Ps 51:5)

Hardness: Result of Sinful Logos

- The more God displays His Logos, the more man rejects God: Hardened (Aorist (Past), Active, Indicative)
- Hardness of Heart result of man's Logos - Sin (Ro 1:18-32)
 - God allows man his Logos; i.e., "...gave them up..."
 - As man lives his Logos, he is degraded (Total Depravity)
 - God's Logos is beyond Man's Logos comprehension

Logos: Judge of Man

- Christ does not judge from His own self but is guided by the Logos (Word) of the Father
 - Man's Logos (Old man) will not mesh with God's Logos (Jo 3:6-8; 5:37-38; Ro 6:6)
 - This is why salvation is of the Father alone (Jo 3:27; 6:44)
 - God's Logos covers saved man (New creation/man) (2Co 5:17)
 - Deeds and words of each person will reveal one's Logos (1Co 3:10-15; Ro 20: 11-15)

Wedding Garment is the Logos of God replacing the Logos of Man

Mind Result of One's Logos

- Mind (φρονέω) summation of Logos; source of the thoughts, words and behaviors of each person
 - It is the English equivalent of *thinking*
 - It is the conscious worldview formed by the Logos
- Man's Logos: fleshly, earthly worldview
(Ro 8:5-6; Ph 3:17-19)
- Christian mind reflects Christ's Logos (Ph 2:5; Gal 3:1-11)

*Christian in a constant state of maturing in Christ
Unless one is resisting, grieving the Holy Spirit*

Compromised Belief

- Many Jews in authority believed in Him; however,
 - They were two-souled (Jn 1:5-8)
 - They believed God's Logos but they could not give up man's Logos worldview
 - They were unwise, unstable; thus are many today also
- Many Christians unskilled in the Bible remained two-souled, divided between Christ and fleshly Logoi

Logos Explains Mind of Sin

- The Logos of sinful man explains why sinners cannot *hear* (understand) the utterances of
 - God
 - Christ
 - Christians
 - Bible
- They have the mind of flesh: blinded and hardened

Logoi of Lucifer and Man

- Man's Logos finds congruency in Lucifer's Logos insuring man's blindness to God's Logos (Gospel) (Ep 2:1-3; 2Co 4:3-5)
- Man's Logos actively seeks self-love validating its own lies; can never arrive at God's truth (2Ti 3:1-7)
- Their Logos reinforced by false teachers of myths and rejection of sound or true doctrine (2Ti 4:3-5; 2Pe 2; Jude)
- The Logos of man is actually the Logos of Lucifer - Sin

Purpose of Hagiazo Process

- Reveal fleshly elements that encumber each believer (Col 3:5-9)
- We are to *put off* the works of the flesh (Implied: Via Christ) indicative of the *Old Man* or Man's Logos (Ga 2:20-21)
- Hagiazo Process reveals those fleshly traits we embrace while still in our fleshly bodies
- This process of maturation slowly reveals the *mind* of Christ in us

Revelation of God's Logos

- God's Logos in us revealed by our renewed mind and exhibited by changed thoughts and behaviors (Col 3:10-17)
- Love of God (selfless); not of man (self-centered) (1Pe 2:3-11)
- Patience coupled with forgiveness
- Peace of God ruling in one's mind vice anger
- Thus, whatever one does emulates Christ, not Lucifer

God's Logos in the Family (Col 3:18-21)

- The most important relationship on earth is the family (Ep 5:22-6:4)
 - Wives submit to husbands as Christ submitted to the Father, even to death (Submission is to Christ)
 - Husbands are to love their wives and children as Christ loves His own; not harshly, but in compassion
 - Children are to obey the parents as Christ obeyed God

*This is why Husbands and Wives are not to be unequally yoked
They will exhibit conflicting Logos and raise confused children
(1Co 7:10-17; 2Co 6:14-18)*

God's Logos Inscrutable

- God's Logos cannot be explained to the lost, it is foolishness to them, nor can it be clearly explained to the saved (1Co 13:12; 15:35-49)
 - While we inhabit our bodies of flesh we can only dimly understand and display the Logos and mind of Christ
 - Once we put off our fleshly bodies we will clearly know Him as He already clearly knows us

Holy Spirit: Seal of God's Logos

- Holy Spirit, the seal of our salvation, indwells each believer as guarantor of our salvation (Ep 1:13-14)
- Christ in us is the hope of our salvation (Col 1:24-2:4)
- Each Christian can judge themselves; or be judged (1Co 11:31-32)
 - Do you live in the Logos of Christ producing peace?
 - Or do you live in the Logos of flesh producing violence?