

Transforming Daily
“... The Word of God ...”
Revelation 19:13

When most people hear the phrase “The Word of God” they think of the Bible, and rightly so. However, “The Word of God” is first and foremost the designation for Jesus Christ. John 1:1 is probably the best passage to explain why Jesus is designated as such. In the context of Revelation, He is designated as such to emphasize God’s final word of all matters. In other words, Christ is the fulfillment of God promises. He epitomizes what God says.

Historically, before Christ was born, there was the 400 silent years where God didn’t speak to the children of Israel. He told them that if they didn’t repent and turn back to Him, that this day was coming. It came, and for the bulk of what is known as the intertestamental period of church history, God was silent. What is so “Godesk” here is His use of designation.

God told the children of Israel to obey Him. He used the words of the Law the Writings and the Prophets. They wouldn’t listen. His message was basically, “Repent, and turn back to Me (or else).” They didn’t repent (except for a remnant), so God stopped speaking to them. Jesus came on the scene as the Word of God, and what was His message? Repent! It was the same message, but a different Messenger. However, they hadn’t learned their lesson and ultimately crucified Jesus Christ. Then God turned His Word to the Gentiles.

When I was a child, from time to time I was disobedient to my parents (I know, surprises you doesn’t it), and often after a “whoopin’,” my dad would send me to my room. All communication was suspended. A little while into my imprisonment I would call out, “Can I come out of my room yet?” No response. I knew my dad could hear me, but he wasn’t responding. I was still rightly related to him, just out of fellowship. Later, my dad or my mom would come into the room and say, “Did you learn anything yet?” (It was purely rhetorical I assure you). My response was usually one of apology and groveling (which really most of the time I meant it). Then they would let me out. Just for the record, I spent a whole summer on restriction two weeks at a time because of my disobedience and unwillingness to repent of my ways and listen to my father. I would do something wrong, two weeks restriction, get off on that Saturday morning, do something wrong by that night, and I was back on restriction for two more weeks. This went on, I kid you not, for an entire summer. Tough parents, huh, maybe, I thank God for them, but it was more like I was stiff-necked and hard-headed and unwilling to listen to the words of my father.

That is the whole point behind what God was doing (and is doing) with the children of Israel. He loved them (and loves them still), and He wants them to hear and heed His Word. That is why He sent Jesus Christ and why He uses the church that through them His Word will heard and heeded.

Have you heard His Word? Do you heed His Word? Are you allowing Him to use you as a vessel to spread His Word? Here is a word to the wise. Those who have ears to hear need to listen because the first time Jesus Christ came as the Word of God, He came as The Savior. The next time He comes, it will be as The Judge – The Word of God!