

2016 Christmas Special
Three Portraits of the Birth
of the Messiah - Lesson #3

December 25, 2016

Dean Bible Ministries
www.deanbibleministries.org
Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

JOHN 1:14

And the Word became flesh
and dwelt among us, and we
beheld His glory, the glory as
of the only begotten of the
Father, full of grace and truth.



**THREE PORTRAITS
OF THE
BIRTH OF THE MESSIAH**

**John:
“The Messianic Son of God”**

John 1:1–14

John 20:31, “but these [signs, vs. 30] are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that [by] believing you may have life in His name.”

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

1. A Person called The Word became flesh.

**γίνομαι *ginomai* aor mid indic 3 sing
to become something you were not
before.**

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

2. The WORD lived in our midst.

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

3. The WORD lived in human history and was heard, seen, looked upon, and touched. 1 John 1:1

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

3. The LORD lived in human history and was heard, seen, looked upon, and touched. 1 John 1:1

1 John 1:1, “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life—”

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

4. The WORD displayed a unique glory related to being the uniquely begotten Son of God.

John 3:16, “For God loved the world in this manner: He gave His uniquely born Son that whoever believes in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

5. The credentials of the Messiah were demonstrated through the WORD’s grace and the truth that He taught.

John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:3, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

John 1:4, “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:5, “And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with God.”

**Gen. 1:1, “In the beginning God created [F]
the heavens and the earth.”**

John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with God.”

ETERNITY PAST

God (F) and the LOGOS eternally existed.

***eimi* “was” in the imperfect means continued existence**

The beginning of time, matter, all created things



**John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God, and the Word
was God.**

**John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with
God.”**

John 1:1, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

“... the Logos title is based on the targumic *memra* and that in John’s adaptation, ‘the Word’ means ‘YHWH the Son,’ the one who is with the Father and shares the divine name with him. This is seen in the ‘I am HE’ saying that coincides with the ‘I am HE’ saying of YHWH in the Old Testament and therefore characterize the Father.’ ”

John Ronning, *The Jewish Targums and John’s Logos Theology*, 222–223

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

***Memra* is an Aramaic term the Rabbis developed for the expression of God into human history.**

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

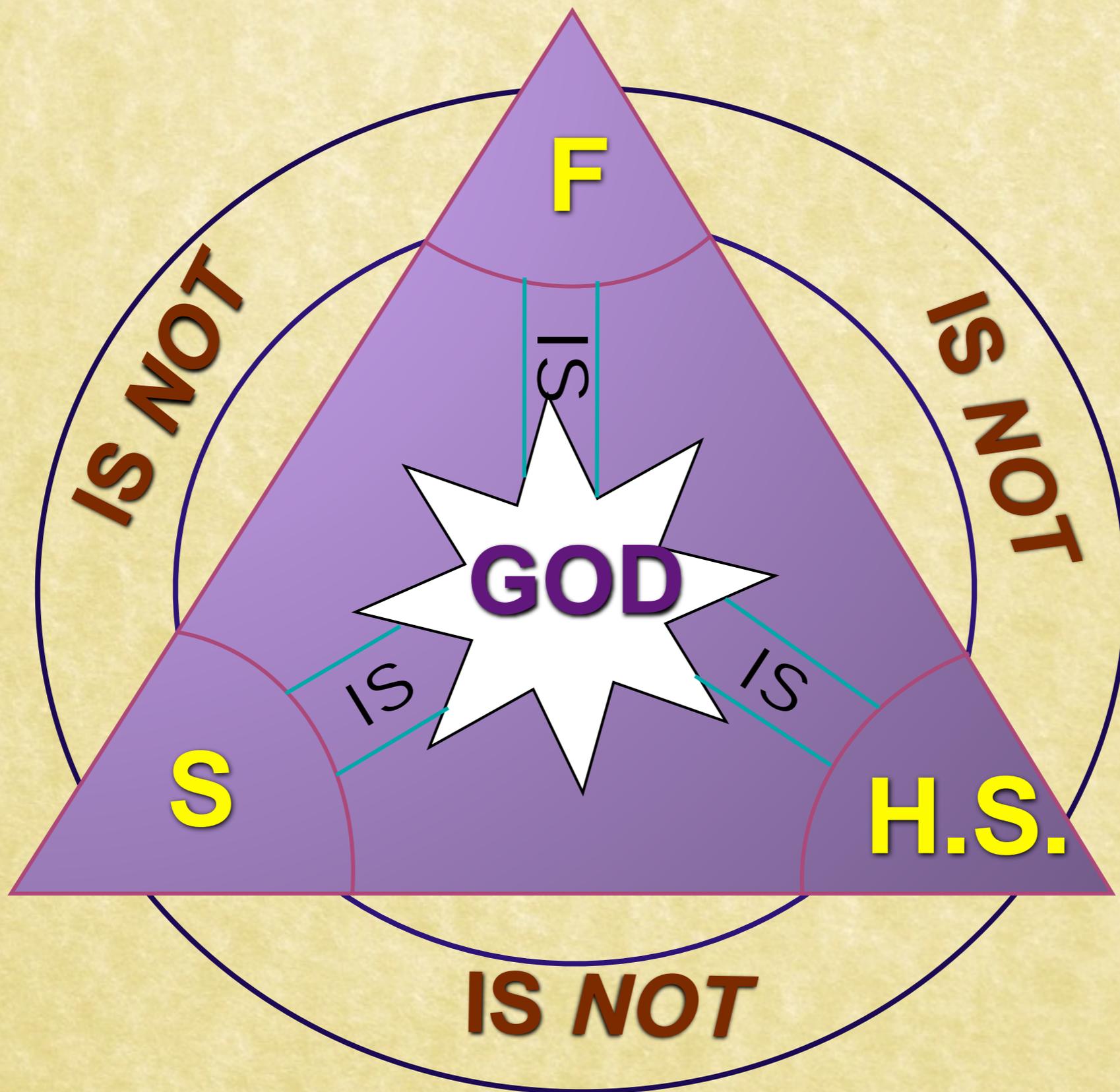
- 1. The *Memra* was the same as God, but at times was distinct from God.**

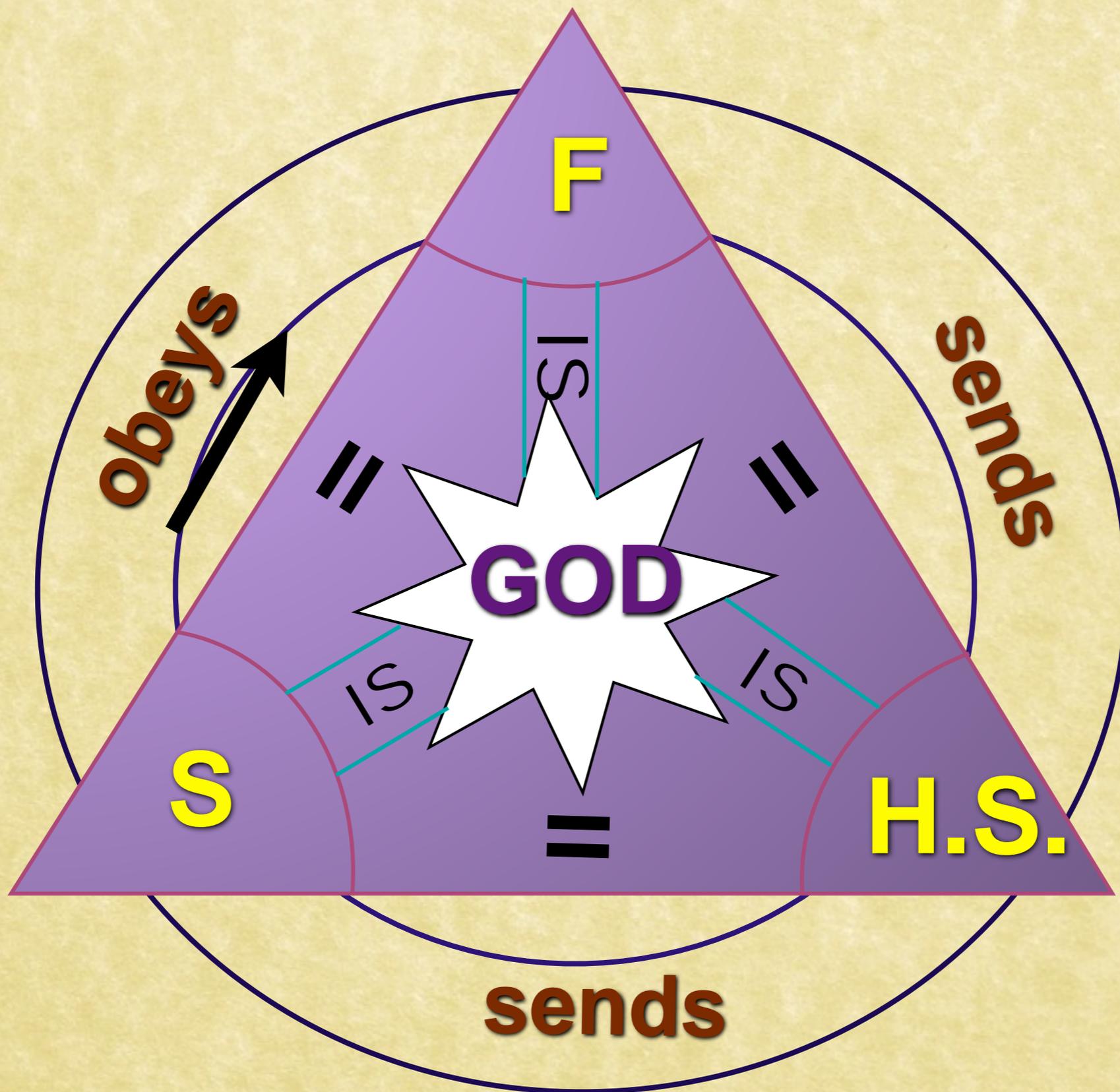
John 1:2, “He was in the beginning with God.”

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

- 2. The *Memra* when distinct from God had a distinct personality from God, but was still equal with God.**





The foreshadowing of the Trinity in Gen. 1

Gen. 1:1, “In the beginning God created [F] the heavens and the earth.

Gen. 1:2, “The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Gen. 1:3, “Then God said [S: the WORD], ‘Let there be light’; and there was light.”

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

3. The *Memra* was distinct from the creation and was the agent of creation.

God created by means of His *Memra*.

John 1:3, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

4. The *Memra* was the agent by whom God brought physical and spiritual deliverance.

John 1:12, “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:”

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

5. The *Memra* was the visible manifestation of the glory and essence of God ...

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:14, “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

σκηνώω *skēnoō* aor act indic 3 sing to dwell; used for the dwelling of God on the earth.

Derived from the Hebrew: *shekinah*; for the presence of God.

***mishkan*: the Hebrew for the Tabernacle**

SEVEN Signs Manifested His Glory

- 1) He changes the water into wine at the bridal feast in Cana in Galilee, John 2:1–11.**
- 2) The healing of the official's son in Capernaum, John 4:46–54.**
- 3) He heals the cripple at the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem, John 5:1–18.**
- 4) He feeds the five thousand near the Sea of Galilee, John 6:5–14.**
- 5) He walks on the water, John 6:15–21.**
- 6) He heals a blind man, John 9:1–7.**
- 7) He resuscitates Lazarus from the dead.**

Plus 1: His resurrection from the dead.

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

6. The *Memra* was the One by whom God signed His covenants.

John 1:17, “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

6. The *Memra* was the One by whom God signed His covenants.

John 1:17, “For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.”

Ex. 24:7, “Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people. And they said, ‘All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient.’ ”

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

7. The *Memra* was the one by whom God revealed Himself.

John 1:18, “No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”

The WORD:

***Logos* [Greek], *Davar* [Hebrew], *Memra* [Aramaic]**

7. The *Memra* was the one by whom God revealed Himself.

John 1:9, “That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.”

“John’s point in these 18 verses is not that He came to fulfill the goals of Greek philosophy; He came to fulfill the goals of the Messianic hope. What the rabbis were teaching about the *Memra* are true of Jesus of Nazareth.”

~Arnold Fruchtenbaum, *Yeshua*