A close-up photograph of an antique book cover, likely made of dark leather. The cover is intricately decorated with gold-tooled text. The words "HOLY BIBLE" are prominently displayed in large, raised, serif letters. Below this, the word "CONCORDANCE" is also visible in a similar style. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the leather and the metallic sheen of the gold. The overall tone is dark and historical.

“In the Beginning was the Word”

John 1:1-18

# Jesus Is The Pre-existent Word

- John 1:1-3 - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

# Jesus Is The Pre-existent Word

- He is the continuing word
  - Heb. 13:5ff, 8 - “... For He Himself has said, I will never leave you nor forsake you... 8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”
  - John 8:58 - “Jesus said to them, Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”

# Jesus Is The Pre-existent Word

- He is the continuing word
  - Heb. 1:12 - “Like a cloak You will fold them up,  
And they will be changed. But You are the same,  
And Your years will not fail.”
  - Rev. 1:4 - “John, to the seven churches which are  
in Asia: Grace to you and peace from Him who is  
and who was and who is to come, and from the  
seven Spirits who are before His throne”

# Jesus Is The Pre-existent Word

- He is the connecting word
  - Gen. 1:26 - “Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over...”
  - Rev. 13:8 - “All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”
  - Eph. 1:4 - “Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love”

# Jesus Is The Pre-existent Word

- He is the controversial word
  - When Jesus came preaching repentance, men thought He was strange - Mark 1:15
  - When He began to heal and perform miracles, men thought He was a prophet sent by God - John 3:2.
  - When He spoke the Word of God with power, men thought He was amazing - Luke 4:36.
  - However, when Jesus claimed equality with God, men thought He was insane - John 19:7.
  - In the eyes of men, He stopped being a blessing and became a controversy when He claimed to be God - John 14:9

# Jesus Is The Pre-existent Word

- He is the controversial word
  - Regardless of what men thought of Him, He is God in the flesh
  - Phil. 2:5-8 - “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”

# Jesus Is The Pre-existent Word

- He is the creative word
  - Col. 1:16-17 - “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.”
  - Matt. 28:18 - “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.”

# Jesus Is The Personified Word

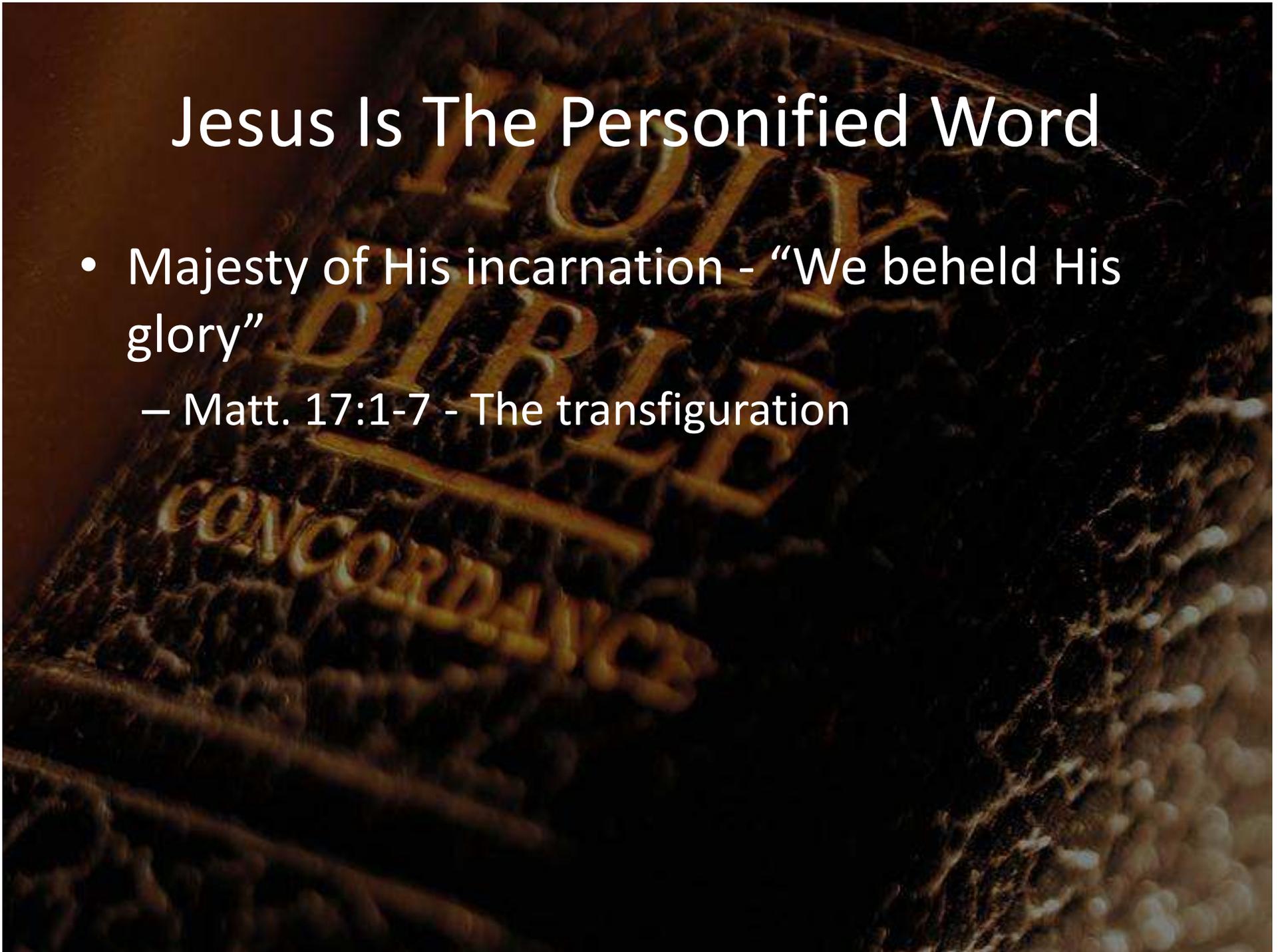
- John 1:14 - “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”
- Manner of His incarnation - “The Word became flesh and dwelled among us.”
  - It is a mystery. The answer lies in the mind of God alone. All we know is what is written.

# Jesus Is The Personified Word

- Mystery of His incarnation - The word was “made” flesh.
  - 1John 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”
  - Heb. 10:5 - “Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me.”
  - John 20:24-29 - “Doubting Thomas”

# Jesus Is The Personified Word

- Majesty of His incarnation - “We beheld His glory”
  - Matt. 17:1-7 - The transfiguration



# Jesus Is The Proclaiming Word

- 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.”
- He came to proclaim the Living God
  - John 14:7-9 - “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him. 8 Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us. 9 Jesus said to him, Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?”

# Jesus Is The Proclaiming Word

- He came to proclaim the Living God
  - Col. 1:15 - “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”
  - Col 2:9 - “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily”
  - Heb. 1:3 - “who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high”

# Jesus Is The Proclaiming Word

- He came to proclaim the light of God
  - John 1:4-9 - “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. 9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.”

# Jesus Is The Proclaiming Word

- John 1:10-13 - “He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. 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: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

# Jesus Is The Proclaiming Word

- He came to proclaim eternal life in God
  - John 6:36-40 - “But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. 39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. 40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

# Jesus Is The Proclaiming Word

- He came to proclaim eternal life in God
  - John 10:9 - “I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.”
  - John 14:6 - “Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”