

## "The Christmas Message: Confused or Clear?"

The real story of Christmas is the incarnation of Jesus; God taking on flesh and blood to become like us.

### Insights About the Incarnation

1. It is an idea which permeates the New Testament.

- John chapter 1 is a theological statement of the incarnation.

*"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*  
- John 1:14

- Philippians chapter 2 is a psychological statement of the incarnation.

*"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross!"*  
- Philippians 2:5-8

2. It is an idea which has always faced opposition.

3. It is an idea which is crucial to our Christian faith!

*"This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that **Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God**, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God."*  
- 1 John 4:2,3

## Why is the Incarnation So Important?

1. It declares a truth about Jesus.

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

*"**The Word became flesh** and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*  
- John 1:14

Two temptations:

1. To make Jesus so human that He is not divine.
2. To make Jesus so divine that He is not human.

2. It declares a truth about God.

Key Point:

*In the incarnation God is revealed as a God who comes to us, a God who comes to where we are. His love reaches all the way to where we are!*

## Why Did Christ Come to Us?

1. To reveal the invisible God.

*"No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known."*  
- John 1:18

2. To give abundant life.

*"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*  
- John 10:10

3. To be a sacrifice for our sins.

*"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because He suffered death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone."*  
- Hebrews 2:9

4. To destroy the works of the devil.

*"The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."*  
- 1 John 3:8

5. To help me through my difficulties.

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*  
- Luke 4:18,19

## "The Christmas Message: Confused or Clear?"

The real story of Christmas is the incarnation of Jesus; God taking on flesh and blood to become like us.

### Insights About the Incarnation

1. It is an idea which permeates the \_\_\_\_\_.

- John chapter 1 is a \_\_\_\_\_ statement of the incarnation.

*"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*  
- John 1:14

- Philippians chapter 2 is a \_\_\_\_\_ statement of the incarnation.

*"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross!"*  
- Philippians 2:5-8

2. It is an idea which has always faced \_\_\_\_\_.

3. It is an idea which is \_\_\_\_\_ to our Christian faith!

*"This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God."*  
- 1 John 4:2,3

## Why is the Incarnation So Important?

1. It declares a truth about \_\_\_\_\_.

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

*"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*  
- John 1:14

Two temptations:

1. To make Jesus so human that He is not \_\_\_\_\_.
2. To make Jesus so divine that He is not \_\_\_\_\_.

2. It declares a truth about \_\_\_\_\_.

Key Point:

*In the incarnation God is revealed as a God who comes to us, a God who comes to where we are. His love reaches all the way to where we are!*

## Why Did Christ Come to Us?

1. To \_\_\_\_\_ the invisible God.

*"No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made Him known."*  
- John 1:18

2. To give abundant \_\_\_\_\_.

*"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."*  
- John 10:10

3. To be a \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins.

*"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because He suffered death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone."*  
- Hebrews 2:9

4. To destroy the works of the \_\_\_\_\_.

*"The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work."*  
- 1 John 3:8

5. To \_\_\_\_\_ me through my difficulties.

*"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."*  
- Luke 4:18,19