

The Lord JESUS

HIS INCARNATION



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When we speak of the incarnation, we are thinking of that unique event in history, never seen before and never to be repeated again, when the Son of God came to earth in flesh. The Apostle John begins his gospel by saying, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"* (John 1.1 KJV) and then says a few verses later, *"and the Word **was made flesh.**"* John was referring to the Son and to the fact of the incarnation.

The Wonder

While the story itself may be an oft-repeated one, we should not lose sight of the majestic wonder of it—God was manifest in flesh! We read in 1 Timothy 3.16 (KJV), *"without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God** was manifest in the flesh."* At His birth, the angel said to the shepherds, *"unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ **the Lord**"* (Luke 2.11 KJV), which shows us that the One born in Bethlehem was a divine person, *"the Lord,"* God manifest in flesh.

The Manner

It is marvelous that the Son of God became flesh, but it is also remarkable to see the manner in which it took

place: by way of the virgin, Mary. Why was He born of a virgin rather than just instantly appearing?

Firstly, in order to be the Saviour of mankind, He too must be a man, taking His place in the human family which He came to rescue. The Bible says, *"Forasmuch then as the children (the human race) are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same"* (Hebrews 2.14 KJV). Therefore, He could not simply 'appear' but must be born into humanity.

Secondly, He must not only be born but it must take place by way of a virgin birth without having an earthly father. In this way, He partook of flesh and blood, but not of the sinful nature that we all possess.

The Purpose

We have already seen that the angel said, *"unto you is born this day in the city of David a **Saviour**, which is Christ the Lord."* The purpose was to save. The entire human family had fallen in sin, and since *"the wages of sin is death"* (Romans 6.23 KJV), Christ came to die for our sins. Had He never become man, He could not have died; but although He became man, neither did He deserve this punishment. However, He

became man *“that he **by the grace of God** should taste death for every man”* (Hebrews 2.9 KJV). Having risen in the same body in which He died, He has the power to save any sinner who believes in Him. *“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved”* (Acts 16.31 NKJV).



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