

# Why Christmas? Why Incarnation?

**Definition:** *The doctrine of the Incarnation holds that Jesus, the preexistent divine Logos (Koine Greek for "Word") and the second Person of the Trinity, taking on a human body and human nature, "was made flesh" and conceived in the womb of Mary. The doctrine of the Incarnation, then, entails that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human -- that the one person of Jesus Christ eternally exists in two natures - inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, and inseparably.*

**"Appeared":** *phaneroō* (1 John 3: 5, 8) ... To make manifest or visible or known what has been hidden or unknown; to be plainly recognized and thoroughly understood; to reveal who and what one is.

**Merry Christmas! The birth of Jesus, God's Son, in Bethlehem proves that...**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| + You are crazy loved by God | + You are a son/daughter of God                        |
| + You are forgiven           | + You are living and becoming more and more like Jesus |
| + You have eternal life      | + You may celebrate God's love by loving others        |

**Merry Son of God, Second Person of the Trinity, Savior of the World, Jesus Christ!**

**GOD'S AGAPE LOVE IS THE FOUNDATION OF AND THE HINGE  
UPON WHICH EVERYTHING IS FOUNDED**

*"See [horaō = behold, perceive, see, take heed] how great a love [agape = a love-feast] the Father has bestowed on us..." (1 John 3:1)*

- |                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| + NO Love, NO Incarnation | + NO Love, NO New Birth |
| + NO Love, NO Call        | + NO Love, NO Assurance |
| + NO Love, NO Purity      | + NO Love, NO Life      |

**YES Love, YES Incarnation, YES Regeneration, YES Incarnation,**

**YES Called**

*See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called [kaleo = to call forth; to receive the name of; to utter in a loud voice and to bear a name] children of God; and so we are." (1 John 1:1) [See Eph. 2:1-5]*

**YES Incarnation, YES, We Know and We Hope, and We Believe**

*"Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know [oida = to know, i.e. get knowledge of, understand, perceive ... of any fact] that when he appears [again] we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes [elpis = to make to hope; joyful and confident expectation of eternal salvation] in him purifies himself as he is pure." (1 John 3:2-3)*

*"Everyone who believes [pisteuō = to know to be true; to put trust in; to entrust one's fidelity] that Jesus is the Christ [that is everyone who believes that this incarnate Jewish man from Nazareth is the promised divine Messiah] has been born of God." (1John 5:1)*

**YES Incarnation, YES Purification/Sanctification**

**YES Incarnation, YES Eternal Life**

*"Whoever believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. . . . And this is the testimony, that God gave us eternal life [aiōnios = without end, never to cease, everlasting], and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life." (1 John 5:10-12)*

**Christmas Was Not Optional:** No incarnation. No regeneration. No justification. No faith. No hope. No purification. No final glorification. What a great love the Father has shown to us!

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