

The Wonder of the Incarnation!

December 21st & 22nd, 2013

John 1:1,14

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

The immeasurable significance of the Incarnation!

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call His name Immanuel’ (which means God with us).” Matthew 1:23

*“...Christ Jesus, who though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.”
Philippians 2:5-7*

In his article, *Sentimentalizing, Sanitizing, and Spiritualizing Christmas*,¹ Bob Kauflin gives these insights into the Incarnation:

- Jesus, the eternal Son of God who before time was worshiped by countless angels, set aside His glory and entered the world through the birth canal of a young woman He had created. [Colossians 1:16-17]
- He came not into a 21st century environment with trained doctors, sterilized instruments and fetal monitors, but into a 1st century cave filled with flies, animal excrement, and filth.
- The fullness of deity took of residence in the body of a baby gasping for its first breath. [Colossians 2:9]
- The one who spoke the universe into existence lay silent, unable to utter a word. [Hebrews 11:3]
- He came by choice and with the sole intention of redeeming a fallen and rebellious race through His perfect obedience, substitutionary death, and victorious resurrection. [Philippians 2:8-11]

Jesus came...

... Full of grace

Grace: (Hebrew – *hen*) “denotes the stronger coming to the help of the weaker...”²

❖ Grace to become His child!

Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God,”

❖ Grace to live a Godly life!

Titus 2:11-12 “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and Godly lives in the present age,”

... **Full of truth**

“Then Pilate said to Him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world – to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.’ Pilate said to Him, ‘What is truth?’ ...” John 18:37-38

❖ Truth about God!

1 Timothy 2:5 “For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,”

❖ Truth about His creation!

Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

❖ Truth about marriage and family!

Genesis 1:27-28 “So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

❖ Truth about sin and separation from God!

Genesis 3

❖ Truth about God’s covenant to redeem His people from their sins!

Matthew 1:21 “She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

... **To make the Father known**

📖 John 14:1-10

John 1:14-18

Endnotes:

¹ Kauflin, Bob. "Sentimentalizing, Sanitizing, and Spiritualizing Christmas." www.worldviewchurch.org. The Colson Center for Christian Worldview, 03 Dec 2013. Web.

² Brown, Colin (editor). *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1986.

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