

Christmas 2014: The Incarnation

Introduction:

The **Incarnation**: We toss this idea about at Christmas but it is the most mysterious and overwhelming of ideas.

1. **Unique:** not simply enlightened
or visited by an angel
or a moral teacher
or a thinker

But God as man, not just an appearance of God,
but God entering into *full* humanity...yet *remaining* God.

2. As the **Old Testament Messiah** was prophesied:
Is. 9; Mic 5:2; Ps. 110

3. New Testament:

4. How did it happen? Phil. 2:5f. “He emptied Himself”
of the manifestation of glory
and His use of Deity to escape the limitation of humanity

5. It was crucial (a crux...cross...intersection)

To **Revelation**: man could know truthfully of God

To **Atonement**: The Bible teaches:

*One must die to justice as a substitute

but... *a perfect man

and... *a divine man

but... *a tested man

“God can’t save what He doesn’t become...”

To **Reconciliation**: to bring the two together...God and man

Conclusion: