

## The Incarnation of Jesus Christ

**1 Timothy 3:16** “*And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.*”

It was important to our salvation that God gave us a Saviour that had the ability to redeem us from our sins. Therefore, God sent The Son, the second person in the Trinity incarnate with the Son of man, Mary’s son, the seed of the woman, to be our Saviour and Redeemer. Therefore, “...*God was manifest in the flesh...*” God is not a man, He is not human, He has no body, God cannot change “...*Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.*”

**James 1:17.** God could not be born, God could not grow, God could not suffer, nor could He die. Therefore, God incarnate in the “Son of man”, or the seed of Mary was God’s solution to deliver a perfect Lamb for sacrifice. Mary was the mother of the seed that produced the incarnate being called “the Son of man and the Son of God incarnate.” God embodied in the seed of the woman. Two individual natures God and man in the very same body. Jesus Christ was without question “The Son of God” and “the Son of man” two separate natures in one body.

A. God became flesh and dwelt among us. **John 1:14** “*And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.*”

1. The Word, the Word that is God, **John 1:1** “*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*”
  - a. What does it mean “*the Word was made flesh*” **Vincent’s word studies** defines it this way. “He became that which first became through Him.” In becoming, He did not cease to be the Eternal Word. His divine nature was not laid aside.”
  - b. **Albert Barnes said this;** “It is not simply affirmed that he was flesh, but that he was made flesh, implying that he had pre-existence” As John 1:1 stated. \
  - c. It is without question that Jesus Christ, the anointed man, the seed of the woman, was both God and man embodied in that man. Two separate natures in one body, God, and Mary.

B. Jesus Christ was manifestation of God in the flesh. 1 Timothy 3:16 (our text scripture).

1. We must understand that Jesus Christ was not just a man, He is not the same as we are, while He was the seed of Mary, He is God. **1 John 4:2 - 3** “*Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: (3) And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.”*
2. God prepared the Son of God a body, since God is a Spirit, the body is called the Son of man. **Hebrews 10:4 - 5** “*For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. (5) Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, **but a body hast thou prepared me:***”
3. The Son of man was not only made and lived in the flesh, but also suffered in the flesh, which God could not do. NO PART OF GOD CAN CHANGE.
- 4.

C. Let us understand something, GOD DID NOT DIE ON THAT CROSS!

1. **1 John 3:16** “*Hereby perceive we the love (of God), because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.*” This is without question the Son of man, not the Son of God.
  - a. The Greek – English interlinear quotes the original Greek here. “*By this we have known the love of God, **because that (One) laid down His life** on behalf of us; and on behalf of the brothers we ought to lay down (our) lives.*”
  - b. **1 Peter 3:18** “*For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, **being put to death in the flesh,** but quickened by the Spirit:” – the words “in the flesh” is important to understand. The word flesh means - the body (as opposed to the soul (or spirit). -Strong's*
  - c. Note the words of Paul in **Romans 1:3-4** “Concerning **his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;** And **declared to be the Son of God with power,** according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:” His humanity was the child born to Mary, the seed of the woman, but His power was God’s Son.
  - d. Jesus Christ was flesh through Mary and her lineage, but not sinful flesh through Adam, because God is His Father.
2. The body died, our bodies die, not the soul, not the spirit. **God is a Spirit and cannot die!** **John 11:26** “*And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?”*

3. When our When Jesus returns the soul and spirits of the saints of God will be with Him. The dead bodies will be resurrected from the dead.
- D. The union of two natures in one Person (the God-Man) is the great mystery of Godliness.
1. Let's read Philippians 2:5-11 *"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*
  2. The "form of God" declares His Deity; the "form of a servant" asserts His humanity. This is the incarnation as defined by God.
  3. V. 6 *"Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:"* and in V. 7b *"...took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:"* God Himself could never have been "made lower" than what He is, which is the Sovereign God of creation. **Hebrews 2:9** *"But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."* This separates God and the Son of man.
    - a. (1.) God could not have been *"who was made a little lower than the angels"*
    - b. (2.) God could never have been *"crowned with glory and honour;"*
    - c. (3.) God could never have *"that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man"*
    - d. (4.) God could have never taken our sin.
    - e. (5.) The Son of Mary, the seed of the woman sits on God's right hand.
    - f. (6.) The Father does not know anything that the Son or the Spirit does not know. **Mark 13:32** *"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father."*

- g. And (7.) **Mark 16:19** “*So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.*” – The Son of God and God are one, therefore it is Jesus the Seed of the woman on God’s right hand.