

**"IT'S ALL ABOUT CHRIST"**  
**A CHRISTMAS SERIES**  
**TEXT: COLOSSIANS 1:12-19**  
**PART THREE**  
**"THE PURPOSE OF CHRIST'S INCARNATION"**

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**INTRO:** There is no greater and more glorious mystery in the Word of God and, for that matter, in the world, than the INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST. In fact, even the Bible calls the INCARNATION a MYSTERY in 1 Timothy 3:16. Because of the GREATNESS OF THE INCARNATION, it is worthy of our **deepest gratitude, adoration and wonder!** Not only that, but the INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST **is necessary for an effective salvation from sin.** Having said that, MOST PEOPLE DO NOT EVEN CONSIDER THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INCARNATION! Without the INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST there would be a LIMITED KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, THERE WOULD BE NO NEW TESTAMENT, THERE WOULD BE NO CHURCH, AND THERE WOULD BE NO SALVATION. In fact, because of the INCARNATION OF CHRIST there is a DRASTIC CONTRAST between the way the O.T. and the N.T. end. For instance the O.T. ends by saying, **"AND HE SHALL TURN THE HEART OF THE FATHERS TO THE CHILDREN, AND THE HEART OF THE CHILDREN TO THEIR FATHERS, LEST I COME AND SMITE THE EARTH WITH A CURSE."** On the other hand the N. T. ends by saying, **"THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST BE WITH YOU ALL. AMEN."** That is quite a big difference which is all because of Jesus Christ and His WONDERFUL INCARNATION! Today, we are going to conduct a brief study of the PURPOSE OF THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST which I pray will be both instructional and edifying.

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**NOTE:** IN STUDYING THE PURPOSE OF THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST WE SHALL LOOK AT THREE SEPARATE PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE THAT RELATE NINE REASONS FOR THIS GREAT MYSTERY.

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**I. THE INCARNATION ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 1:21-23**

A. The Incarnation Provided Salvation - Matthew 1:21

"His name shall be called Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins."

**NOTE:** The name JESUS means **"TO SAVE."** Thus His Very Name means that BY VIRTUE OF WHO HE IS, HE SHALL BRING SALVATION!

1. We All Have Sinned, and Cannot Save Ourselves.
2. We need a Savior to die and pay the wage of our sin, and also to shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sin and it TOOK A BODY TO DO THAT! The Incarnation gave Jesus the needed body for our redemption!

B. The Incarnation Provided the Manifestation of God - Matthew 1:23

"They shall call His Name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us"

1. The O.T. gives a limited Picture of God.
2. The Incarnation of God in the flesh gives a complete picture of God.
  - a. Matthew emphasizes that the Son of the Virgin Mary, Emmanuel, shall not ONLY be Jesus the Savior, but also GOD IN OUR MIDST!
  - b. Everything Christ was, said and did brought God into view before humanity!

**ILLUSTRATION:**

**II. THE INCARNATION ACCORDING TO JOHN 1:14-18**

A. The Incarnation Provided a View of God's Glory - Vs. 14a

1. God's **"ULTIMATE GLORY,"** "THE SHEKINAH," is beyond our ability to comprehend. In fact, to see God's COMPLETE GLORY is impossible for humanity according to Exodus 33:20 when God said to Moses, **"THOU CANST NOT SEE MY FACE: FOR THERE SHALL NO MAN SEE ME, AND LIVE."**

2. God's **"MANIFESTED GLORY"** was seen to a degree in the O.T. in the BURNING BUSH (Moses), the PILLAR OF FIRE (The Exodus), and the LIGHTING UP OF MOUNT SIANI (Moses receiving the 10 Commandments).

3. God's **"VEILED GLORY"** was seen in Christ through His miracles, His absolute moral perfection, His pure holiness, and His Divine Love. An example of the **BRIGHTNESS OF HIS GLORY WAS SEEN IN CHRIST** when He was with Peter, James and John on the Mountain of Transfiguration. **Even when Christ was on the cross** His GLORY was seen in a unique way according to Hebrews 1:3.

4. The **BOTTOM LINE IS** that **ALL OF THE GLORY OF GOD THAT WAS NEEDED TO BE SEEN BY MANKIND WAS REVEALED THROUGH CHRIST WHEN HE WAS ON THE EARTH! THUS HIS DEITY CANNOT BE DENIED!**

B. The Incarnation Provided the Declaration of God's Grace and Truth - Vss. 14-18

1. In Christ we see God's awesome Grace - Unmerited Favor
2. In Christ we see God's absolute Truth - Unchanging Reality

ILLUSTRATION:

### **III. THE INCARNATION ACCORDING TO HEBREWS 2:14-18**

- A. The Incarnation Provided Satan's Destruction - Vs. 14
  1. Satan's mission is a mission of death - John 10:10a
  2. Because of the Body Christ received at His Incarnation, Satan was defeated by Christ on the Cross that will lead to Satan's OWN eternal death in the Lake of Fire.
- B. The Incarnation Provided Victory over Sin - Vs. 15
  1. Sin has humanity in spiritual bondage.
  2. The incarnation gave Christ a body to go to the cross and through His death, burial and resurrection, broke the bondage of sin for believers.
- C. The Incarnation Provided a Merciful and Faithful High Priest - Vs. 17a
  1. Through His flesh Christ can sympathize with our weaknesses.
  2. Through His flesh Christ knows what it is like to suffer.
  3. Through His flesh Christ can effectively intercede for us.
- D. The Incarnation Provided Reconciliation for Us - Vs. 17b
  1. Through Christ's work on the cross our sin is forgiven.
  2. Through Christ's work on the cross we who were enemies of God are brought together with God.
- E. The Incarnation Provided Succor (Aid) for Us in the time of Temptation – Vs. 18
  - Through Christ's incarnation He understands the trouble we face as humans and is there to give us all we need in that time of trouble!

ILLUSTRATION:

**LESSON: AGGRESSIVELY FOCUS ON THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST THROUGH PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY AND MEDITATION.**

- 1) Doing so will lead to a greater appreciation of Christ.
- 2) Doing so will lead to a more effective self-less service for Christ.
- 3) Doing so will lead to a more complete worship of Christ.