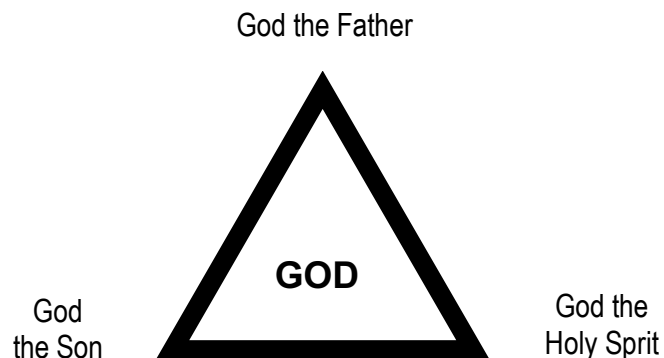


THE REST OF THE STORY: To Bethlehem and Beyond



Incarnation means “in flesh” and is the word used to describe God the Son becoming a human being.

Why did God the Son become one of us?

GOD BECAME A HUMAN BEING TO . . .

REVEAL GOD:

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14 NIV

No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

John 1:18 NIV

Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being.

Philippians 2:6-7 NLT

Although Jesus still had the possession, he limited the expression, of certain divine attributes:

The Son of God became the God-human, Jesus Christ; a theanthropic person (*theos* being the Greek word for God, and *anthropos* being the Greek word for humans).

And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Luke 2:52

REDEEM US:

And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Philippians 2:8 NIV

Because God's children are human beings--made of flesh and blood--the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. **Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.**

Hebrews 2:14-15 NLT

- Only as a human could Jesus die
- Only by dying could he break the power of death

REIGN OVER US:

Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

Luke 1:32-33