

THE SON BECAME FLESH

Our Wednesday Christmas series consists of four lessons on the INCARNATION of Jesus Christ.

- Dec.1 Scripture Became flesh John 1:14
- Dec.8 Seed Became Flesh Rom.1:1-4
- Dec.15 Son Became Flesh Rom.8:3-4
- Dec.22 Savior Became Flesh Luke 2:9-11

How important is it for Christians to understand the biblical teaching regarding the incarnation of Jesus Christ?

The incarnation of Jesus Christ was under attack before the first century AD closed. The Apostle John fought the apostate teaching of Gnosticism regarding the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

“Christ’s humanity was denied in two ways: some say that Christ only seemed to have a body, a view called Docetism from the Greek dokeo (seem), and other said that the divine Christ joined the man Jesus at baptism and left him before he died, a view called Cerinthianism after its most prominent spokesman, Cerinthus. This is the background of much of 1 John (see 1:1; 2:22; 4:2-3).” (Introduction of book of 1 John, NIV)

“He testifies that the one who has existed from eternity “became flesh” (John 1:14) – i.e., a flesh-and-blood man. He was true God and true man. At the outset, John contradicts the heresy of the Gnostics.” (NIV, 1 John 1:1)

We have outlined our lesson text by the following five homiletical points (Rom.8:3-4). Paul introduced our outline with this statement – “*What the law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh – God did by -*”(8:3)

- Sending His Son Incarnation
- Sinful flesh likeness Impeccable
- Sin offering Indictment
- Sin-nature Inoperative
- Spirituality Indwelling

This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the INCARNATION of Jesus Christ entitled, “Son Became Flesh.”

1. The word incarnation is derived from the Latin word *incarnatio*. It means, “to become flesh.”

This Latin word was used to identify a specific doctrine of the church known as the INCARNATION of Jesus Christ.

Unger defines the Incarnation of Jesus Christ as “one person with two natures indissolubely united, the one nature being that of the eternal Son of God, the other that of man in all respects human, yet without sin.” (Unger Bible Dictionary)

“And you know that He appeared in order to take away sins; and in Him there is no sin.” (1 John 3:5)

“For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form.” (Col.2: 9)

2. The Apostle John gave a stern warning against teachers who distort the truth of the incarnation of Jesus Christ (1 John 4:1-6).

“For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.” (2 John 7)

“Who is the liar but the one who denies that Jesus is the Christ? This the antichrist, the one who denies the Father and the Son.” (1 John 2:22)

“And every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God: and this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.” (1 John 4:3)

The spiritual advancing believer must be doctrinally prepared to defend it.

3. The incarnation of Jesus Christ is the manifestation of the 3rd member of the Godhead in human form to the world

THE SON BECAME FLESH (John 14:7-15) The Son's oneness with the Father.

“No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten God, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.” (John 1:18; 10:30)

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

“And He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.” (Col.1:15)

“And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on High.” (Heb.1:3; 1 Tim.6:16)

4. The divine purpose of the incarnation of Jesus Christ was to offer grace salvation to the entire world.

“Who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” (Phil.2:6-8)

“It is a trustworthy saying, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.” (1 Tim.1:15; 2:5; Heb.9:15)

“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.” (2 Cor.5:21)

“But now once at the consummation of the ages He has been manifested to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.” (Heb.9:26b)

5. Conception by the Holy Spirit in the virgin Mary was the method of the SON BECOMING FLESH or the incarnation of Jesus Christ (Matt.1: 20-23; Isa.7: 14) Immanuel, God with us.

“And the angel answered and said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God.’” (Luke 1:35)