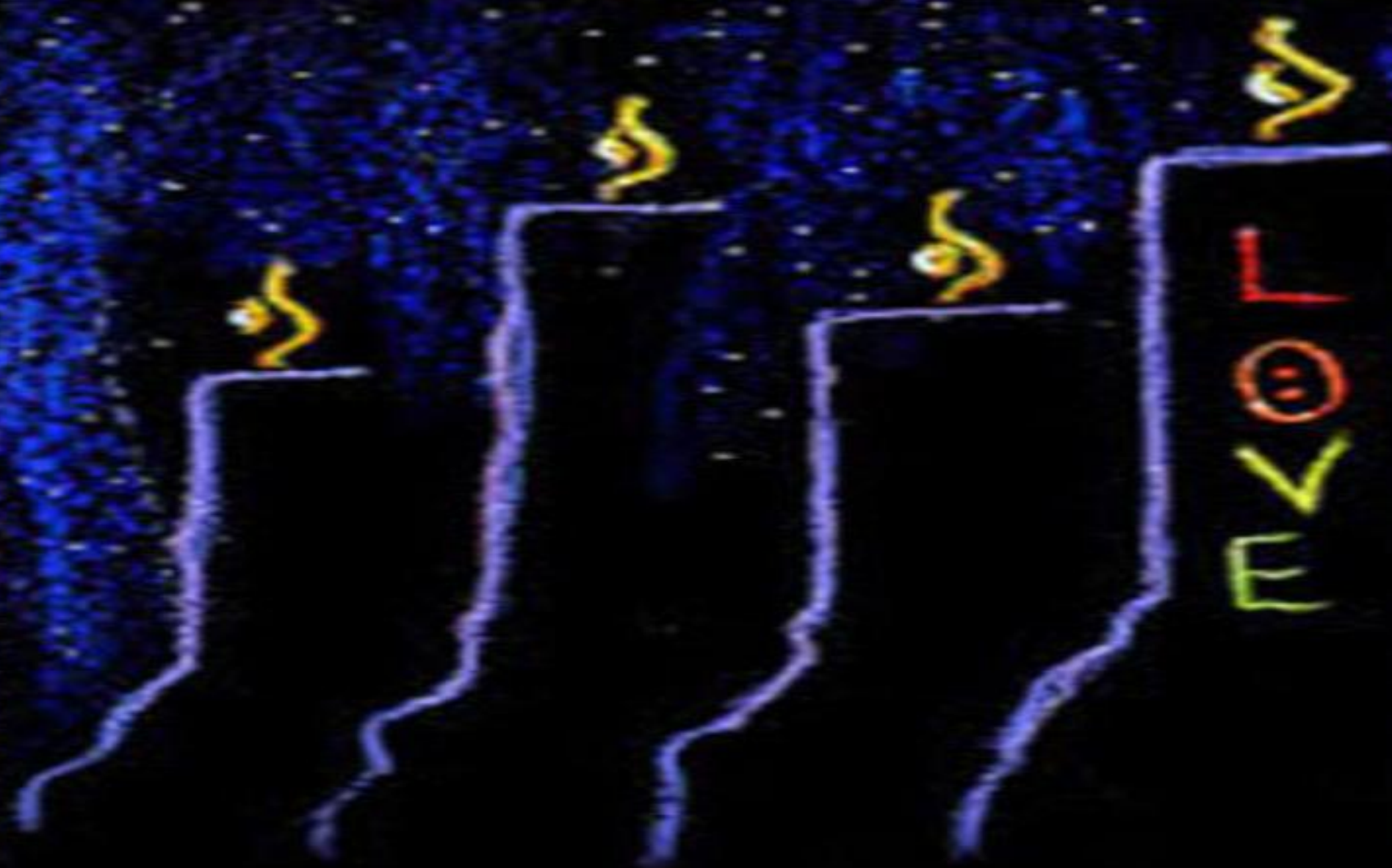




# ADVENT

*PREPARE for CHRIST*



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E



The greatest Christmas gift  
*ever given*

wasn't placed under the tree,

Christmas  
2023

He was placed  
on the Tree

and His name is

*Jesus*

[LoveThisPic.com](http://LoveThisPic.com)



*The Day*  
**LOVE**  
*Was Born*

Christmas is  
a Time of  
Great Love



# CHRISTMAS IS A TIME OF GREAT LOVE

## **John 3:16-18 KJV**

<sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

## **John 3:16-18 Amp**

<sup>16</sup> “For God so [greatly] loved *and* dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] [\[a\]](#) only begotten Son, so that whoever believes *and* trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish, but have eternal life.

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**Love= agapaō**

**Agapaō = Much Love -> Agape= Giving Love -expecting nothing back**

- His Love Was So Great that He Chose to Be One Of Us...  
...To Walk A Mile In Our Shoes
- In Order that He Could Actually Understand What We Go Through

Job 9:33-35 KJV

<sup>33</sup> Neither is there any daysman betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both. <sup>34</sup> Let him take his rod away from me, and let not his fear terrify me: <sup>35</sup> Then would I speak, and not fear him; but it is not so with me.



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### Job 9:33-35 Amplified

<sup>33</sup> There is no umpire between us, who might lay his hand upon us both, [would that there were!] <sup>34</sup> That He might take His rod away from [threatening] me, and that the fear of Him might not terrify me. <sup>35</sup> [Then] would I speak and not fear Him, but I am not so in myself [to make me afraid, were only a fair trial given me].



A silhouette illustration of a nativity scene set against a dark blue, starry night sky. A bright, glowing light emanates from the top center, casting a beam down onto a stable where the Virgin Mary and the infant Jesus are depicted. To the left and right of the stable, two camels are shown in profile, facing towards the center. The entire scene is rendered in a monochromatic blue color scheme.

"AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME  
IMMANUEL," WHICH IS TRANSLATED,"  
**GOD WITH US."**

MATTHEW 1:23

# Three Words that Describe His Love Shown in the Manger

- Emmanuel
- Incarnation
- Kenosis

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MATTHEW 1:23



# Three Words that Describe His Love Shown in the Manger

- Emmanuel
- Incarnation
- Kenosis

These Three Words Are All Very Powerful Alone  
But

Intertwine a Wonderful Picture of God's Love

**GOD WITH US."**

MATTHEW 1:23

God Meets Us Where We Are...  
...At the Point of Our Need

Emmanuel

- All Other Religions...  
...Man Desperately Searches for God

A silhouette of a nativity scene set against a blue, starry night sky. In the center, the Virgin Mary and Joseph are shown with the infant Jesus in a manger. To the left, two camels are silhouetted against the sky. To the right, a third camel is silhouetted. The background features rolling hills and a bright star shining down from the sky.

"AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME  
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**GOD WITH US."**

MATTHEW 1:23



God Meets Us Where We Are...  
...At the Point of Our Need

Emmanuel

- All Other Religions...  
...Man Desperately Searches for God
- In Christianity...  
...God Searches for Man  
Emmanuel...  
... *"God with Us!"*

"AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME  
IMMANUEL," WHICH IS TRANSLATED,"  
**GOD WITH US."**

MATTHEW 1:23

# The Indescribable Described

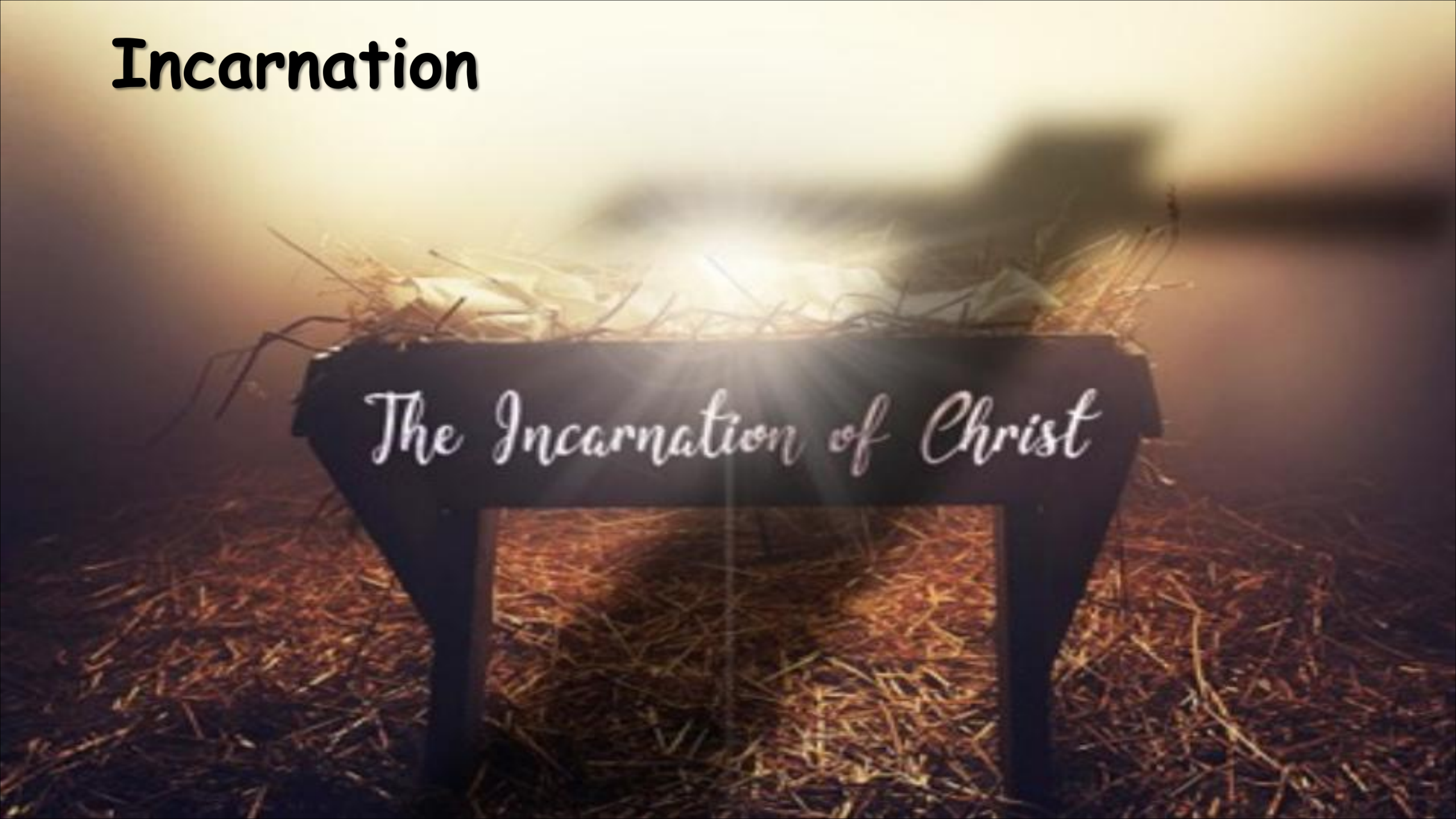
## John 1:14- Describes *"What Happened"*

<sup>14</sup> 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. -John 1:14 KJV

<sup>14</sup> So the Word became human[a] and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness.[b] And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. -John 1:14 NLT



# Incarnation



*The Incarnation of Christ*

# Incarnation

Son of God  
Becomes  
Son of Man

The Great Mystery of Salvation

As the Son of God =  
He Had the Price  
But Could Not Pay it

*The Incarnation of Christ*



# Incarnation

Son of God  
Becomes  
Son of Man

The Great Mystery of Salvation

As the Son of God =  
He Had the Price  
But Could Not Pay it

As the Son of Man =  
**He Paid it**

He Faced Death in Most Horrible  
Way

And Defeated it  
But It All Started Here



# The Indescribable Described

John 1:14- Describes  
*"What Happened"*

Phil 2:5- Describes  
*"How it Happened"*

# Kenosis



# Kenosis

Here is the Key

## The Mystery of the God-Man

<sup>5</sup> Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: <sup>7</sup> But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: <sup>8</sup> And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. **Phil 2:5-11**  
KJV



# Jesus Walked in My Shoes

JOHN 1:14

The Daily Promise

<sup>5</sup> Have this same attitude in yourselves which was in Christ Jesus [look to Him as your example in selfless humility], <sup>6</sup> who, although He existed in the form *and* unchanging essence of God [as One with Him, possessing the fullness of all the divine attributes—the entire nature of deity], did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped *or* asserted [as if He did not already possess it, or was afraid of losing it]; <sup>7</sup> but emptied Himself [without renouncing or diminishing His deity, but only temporarily giving up the outward expression of divine equality and His rightful dignity] by assuming the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men [He became completely human but was without sin, being fully God and fully man]. <sup>8</sup> After He was found in [terms of His] outward appearance as a man [for a divinely-appointed time], He humbled Himself [still further] by becoming obedient [to the Father] to the point of death, even death on a cross.





YOU CAN ASK ME  
**ANYTHING.**  
YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE  
**WALKED**  
IN YOUR SHOES,  
**RIGHT?**





**YOU CAN ASK ME  
ANYTHING.  
YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE  
WALKED  
IN YOUR SHOES,  
RIGHT?**

**He Knows What It's Like To Suffer...**

- Hunger
- Thirst
- Fatigue
- Sickness
- Earthly Needs

**Jesus Loved Us Enough to Walk  
a Mile in Our Shoes**



# Love Walked a Mile in My Shoes



**"FOR WE DO NOT HAVE A HIGH PRIEST WHO CANNOT SYMPATHIZE  
WITH OUR WEAKNESSES,  
BUT WAS IN ALL POINTS TEMPTED AS WE ARE, YET WITHOUT SIN."  
HEBREWS 4:15**

# Love Walked a Mile in My Shoes

<sup>14-16</sup> Now that we know what we have—Jesus, this great High Priest with ready access to God—let's not let it slip through our fingers. We don't have a priest who is out of touch with our reality. He's been through weakness and testing, experienced it all—all but the sin. So let's walk right up to him and get what he is so ready to give. Take the mercy, accept the help. Heb 4:14-16

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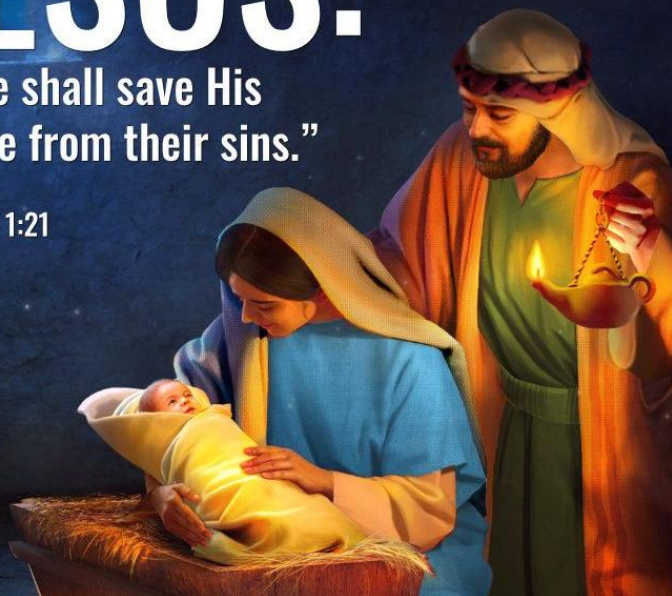


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# JESUS:

for He shall save His  
people from their sins."

Matthew 1:21



All this took place to fulfill  
what the Lord had said  
through the prophet:

"The virgin will conceive  
and give birth to a son,  
and they will call him

## Immanuel

(which means "God with us").

Matthew 1:22-23 NIV

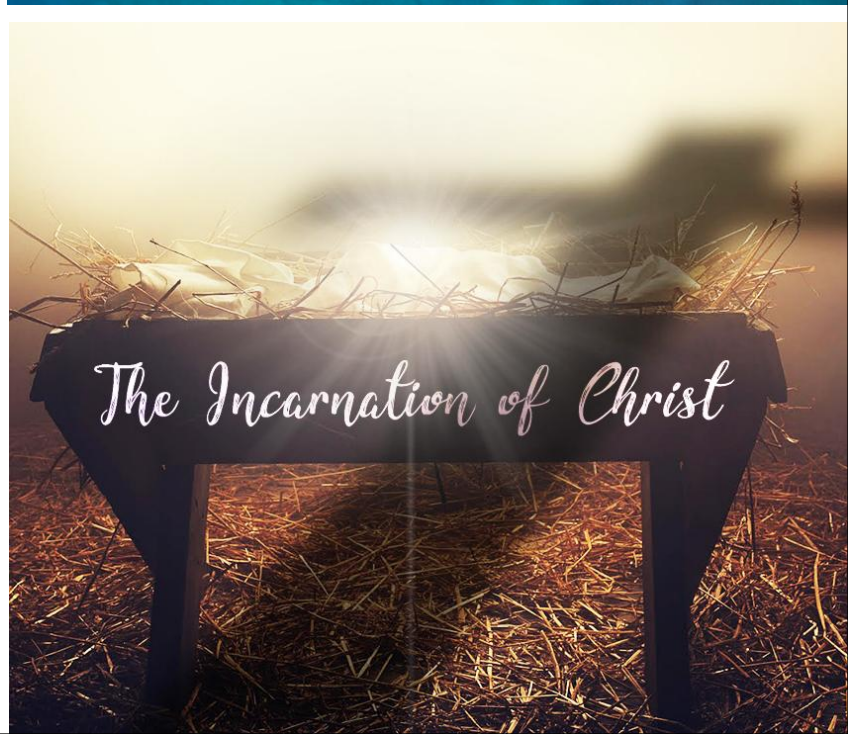
WORD  
TO ALL



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IMMANUEL," WHICH IS TRANSLATED,"  
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MATTHEW 1:23

JHM.ORG





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## This Week's Challenge

### Let's Take the "Jesus Attitude Challenge"

**Phil 2:5, "Let this Attitude be in you..."**

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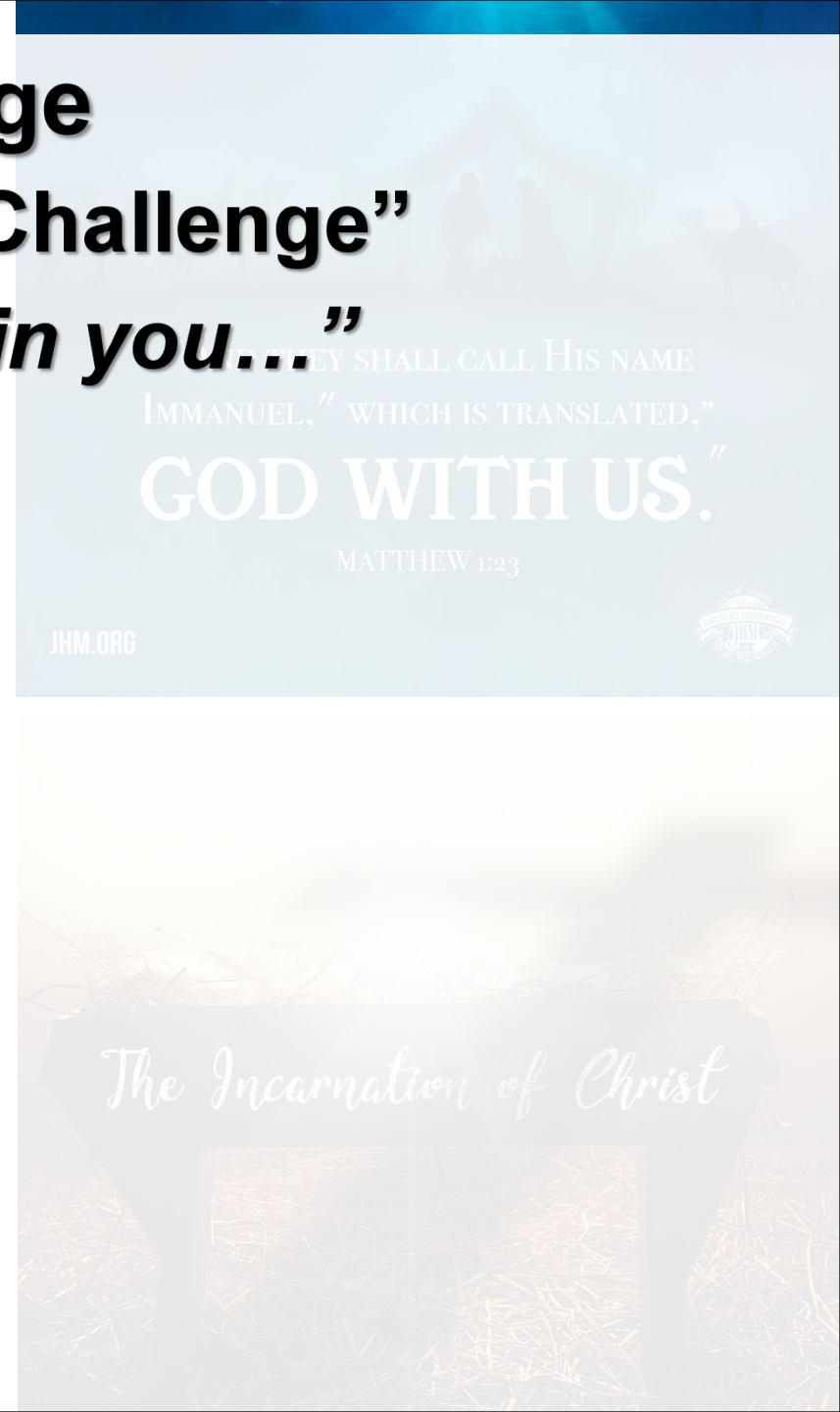
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**No Matter What Challenges or Obstacles**

**We Face with Others ...**

**Learn to Face It With...**

**Compassion**

**and...**

**Love (*agape*)**

**Watch How Your Life Will Bloom with Opportunity...**

**...To Be God's "Lift of Love to Others"**

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him

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(which means "God with us").

Matthew 1:22-23 NIV

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MATTHEW 1:23

JHM.ORG



The Incarnation of Christ

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**Jesus Walked  
in Our Shoes**

