



Love So Amazing
at
Christmas



1 Jn. 4:9-10

“Love So Amazing for our Faith – The Incarnation”

1 Jn. 4:9 In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that **God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.**
10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that **he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**



This morning, we begin a Christmas series entitled, “LOVE SO AMAZING AT CHRISTMAS.” Most people know the words of the verse in Jn. 3:16, but unfortunately, they do not fully grasp the meaning of those words. In essence, that verse is saying, “LOVE SO AMAZING AT CHRISTMAS.”

The Incarnation, *Theology*. The doctrine that the second person of the Trinity assumed human form in the person of Jesus Christ and is completely both God and man. <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/Incarnation?s=t>

The Bible puts it this way:

Jn. 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 Tim. 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.

The Incarnation is such a marvelous solution to man's dilemma with sin and makes mankind's opportunity for salvation totally dependent upon God, including the virgin birth, and the loving obedience of His only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

I. LOVE SO AMAZING WAS ACCORDING TO GOD'S PLAN

1 Jn. 4:9a “**In this was manifested the love of God toward us...**”

A. God's Plan Revealed Christ's Pre-existence

He did not begin in Bethlehem!

Jn. 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with **the glory which I had with thee before the world was.**

Jn. 17:24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; **that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.**

1 Pet. 1:18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

20 **Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,

21 Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.

B. God's Plan Revealed Christ in Prophecy

1. The Miracle Foretold

Isa. 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; **Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.**

Original Word: עַלְמָה **Transliteration:** almah

Short Definition: virgin

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/5959.htm>

Original Word: עִמָּנוּאֵל **Transliteration:** Immanuel

Short Definition: Immanuel, "with us is God," the name of a child

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/6005.htm>

2.The Miracle Fulfilled

Mt. 1:23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name **Emmanuel**, which being interpreted is, **God with us**.

Original Word: παρθένος **Transliteration:** parthenos;

Definition: a maiden, a virgin

Usage: a maiden, virgin; extended to men who have not known women.

parthénos – properly, a *virgin*; a woman who has never had sexual relations; a female (virgin), beyond puberty but not yet married; (figuratively) *believers* when they are pure (chaste), i.e. faithful to Christ their heavenly Bridegroom (2 Cor 11:2; Rev 14:4).

<https://biblehub.com/greek/3933.htm>

Original Word: Ἐμμανουήλ **Transliteration:** Emmanouél

Definition: Emmanuel, a Messianic title derived from Isaiah 7:14 = **God with us.**

<https://biblehub.com/greek/1694.htm>

C. God's Plan Revealed in Christ's Preeminence

Col. 1:16 For **by him were all things created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

17 And **he is before all things**, and **by him all things consist**.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that **in all things he might have the preeminence**.

Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for **there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**

Phil. 2:5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:
6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 **But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:**

8 And **being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a **name which is above every name:**

10 That **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow**, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* **every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.

II. LOVE SO AMAZING ANNOUNCED GOD'S PRESENTATION

1 Jn. 4:9b "...because that **God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.**"

A. God Provided The Initiative – "...that **God sent** his only begotten Son into the world..."

Rom. 3:11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

Jn. 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the **true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.**

B. God Presents the Invitation – “...that **we might live through him.**”

Phil. 1:21 For to me **to live is Christ**, and to die *is* gain.

Acts 17:28 For **in him we live**, and move, and have our being...

Col. 3:4 When **Christ, who is our life**, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

Jn. 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life**: no man cometh unto the Father, **but by me.**

III. LOVE SO AMAZING ACCOMPLISHED GOD'S PROPITIATION

1 Jn. 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that **he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

A. God's Love So Amazing is for our Discernment of the Savior's Purpose

1 Jn. 4:10a "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that **he loved us...**"

B. God's Love So Amazing is for our Deliverance from Sin's Power

1 Jn. 4:10 "...**he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**"

1 Jn. 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, **we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:**

2 And **he is the propitiation for our sins:** and not for ours only, but also **for the sins of the whole world.**

Mt. 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.**

1 Tim. 1:15 This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.**

Conclusion

2 Cor. 8:8 I speak not by commandment, but by occasion of the forwardness of others, and **to prove the sincerity of your love.**

9 For ye know **the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.**

1 Jn. 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to **forgive us our sins**, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Isa. 1:18 Come now, and let us reason together,
saith the LORD: though **your sins be as scarlet, they
shall be as white as snow**; though they be red like
crimson, they shall be as wool.

Isa. 38:17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness:
but **thou hast in love to my soul** *delivered it* from
the pit of corruption: for thou hast **cast all my sins
behind thy back.**

Psa. 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, **so far
hath he removed our transgressions from us.**