

God Incarnate

John 1: 1-4, 14

Difficulties of the Christian beliefs

- Atonement through the death of one man
- Virgin birth
- Resurrection
- Miracles
- Supernatural nature....a stumbling block to faith for many
- not reasonable or scientific.

If the incarnation was true

- Atonement through the death of one man
- Virgin birth
- Resurrection
- Miracles
- Stumbling block would be removed....
- They would be reasonable to believe.

Word became flesh....

John 1

- **1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He was with God in the beginning. **3** Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. **4** In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.
- **14** The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

Word....



- The Word at Creation

Genesis 1:3

Word....

- By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth.
(Psalms 33:6)
- For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm (33:9)
- The Word..... Power of God to create

The Word... John 1: 1-4

- In the beginning was the Word
- **Eternal**...no beginning
- And the Word was with God
(v 1)
- (He was (v2), in Him, through Him and without Him (v3).....a Person)
- **Person**... the power that fulfill God's purpose is that of a distinct personal being....

- And the Word was God (v.1)



**HE IS THE IMAGE
OF THE INVISIBLE
GOD, THE
FIRSTBORN OVER
ALL CREATION.**

- COLOSSIANS 1:15 -

- **Word is God**, though He is personally distinct from the Father ; He is divine in himself, as the Father is.
- second Person in the Godhead....
- Colossians 1:15

- Through Him all things were made (v.3)



**All things were created
through him and for him.**

COLOSSIANS 1:16

- **Creator..** He is the agent of every creative act of the Father ..
- Colossians 1:16

- In Him was life (v.4)

- **Giver of life...** the origin and continuance of life...
- created things do not have life in themselves.
- Word.... gives life to all

- And that life was the light of men (v.4)
- **Word revealing.** In giving life, He gives light too
- Each person's life is an evidence of God in this world, their being alive itself is due to the work of the Word.
- Romans 1:18-20



For since the creation
of the world God's
invisible qualities-His
eternal power and
divine nature-have
been clearly seen,
being understood from
what has been made,
so that men are
without excuse.
Romans 1:19-20

- All creation reveal God's invisible qualities ... eternal power and divine nature

- The Word became flesh
(v.14)

- **Word incarnate.** The baby in the manger at Bethlehem was none other than the eternal Word of God



INCARNATE

the Word became flesh and dwelt among us

John 1:14



- Latin word '*carnis*'.....
flesh
- God taking on human
flesh and becoming man
in Jesus Christ

The baby born at Bethlehem

- Real human baby



The baby born at Bethlehem was God made man

- Real human baby

Fully God:

- He had not ceased to be God, was no less God than before, but He had begun to be man

- He was not now God minus some element of deity, but
- God plus all that He made as man

Fully a man

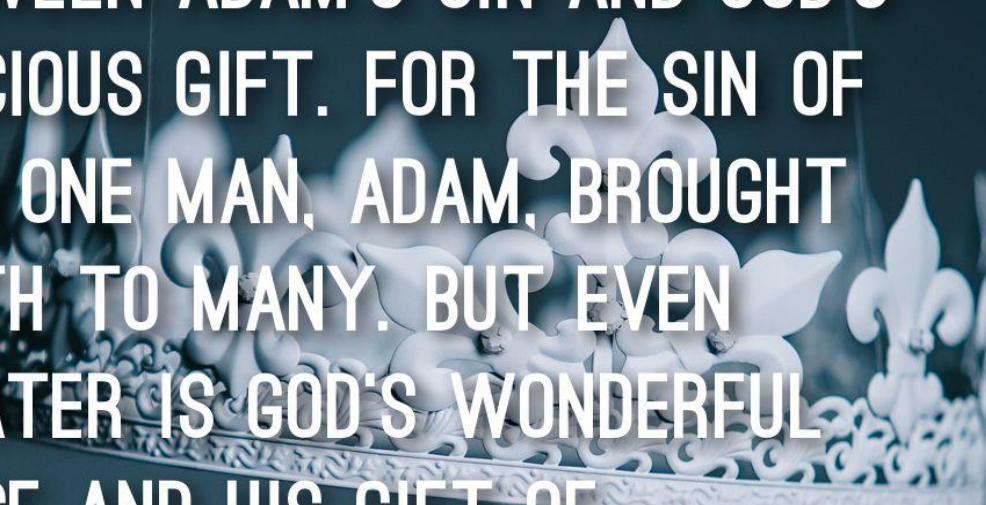
- The Creator was now learning/ experiencing what it meant to be man.
- he was able to be, and could not avoid being tempted - by the devil
- the perfection of his human life was only achieved by his conflict with the devil like us.

Hebrews 2: 17-18

- ¹⁷ For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.
- ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Reason...made fully human

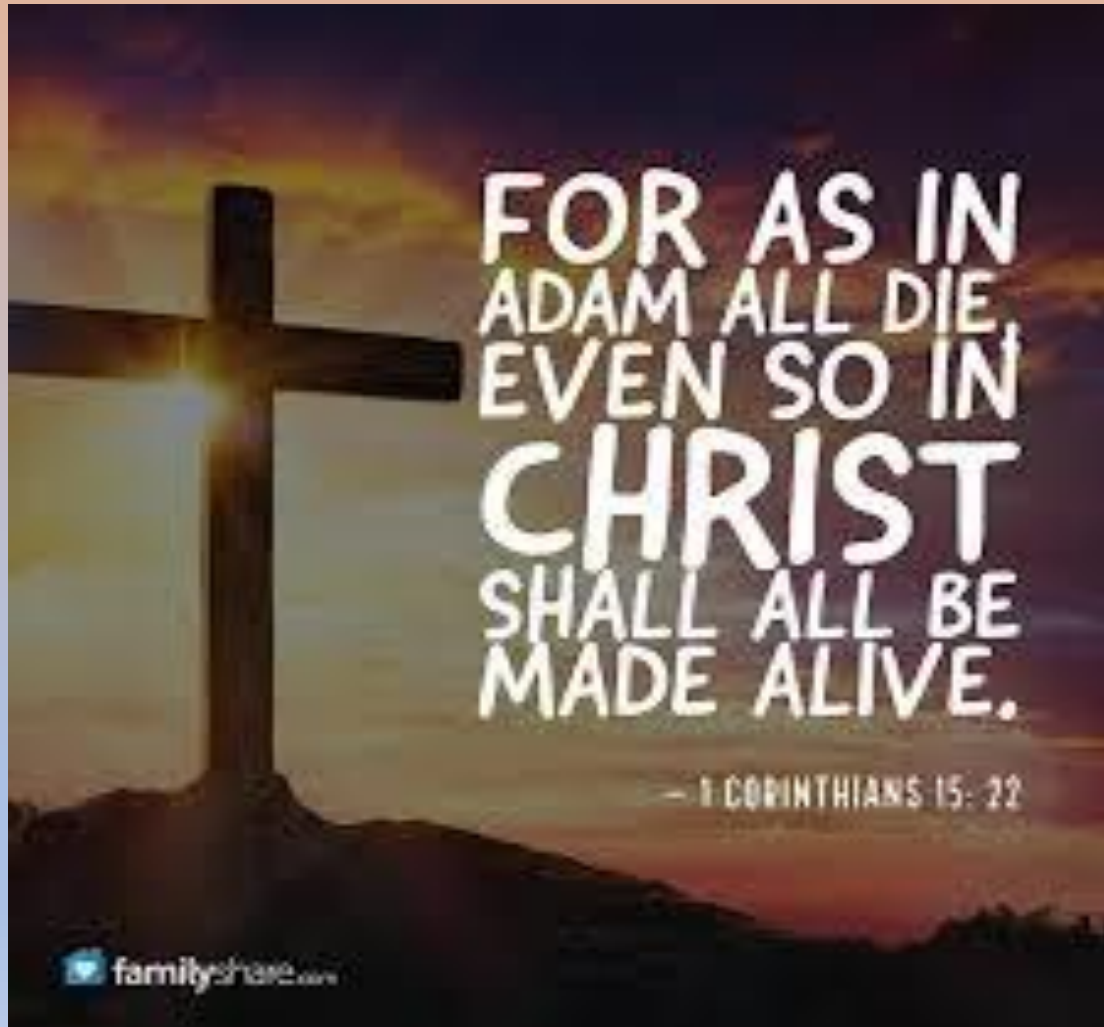
- Make atonement for sins
 - Only as a sinless man could he die to pay penalty of sin.
 - But how can the death of one man atone for the sins of many?



**BUT THERE IS A GREAT DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN ADAM'S SIN AND GOD'S
GRACIOUS GIFT. FOR THE SIN OF
THIS ONE MAN, ADAM, BROUGHT
DEATH TO MANY. BUT EVEN
GREATER IS GOD'S WONDERFUL
GRACE AND HIS GIFT OF
FORGIVENESS TO MANY THROUGH
THIS OTHER MAN, JESUS CHRIST.
ROMANS 5:15**

- Sin came into creation through Adam's sin, one man.
- atonement for sin through Jesus Christ, one man
- Gift of forgiveness and grace

1 Corinthians 15:22



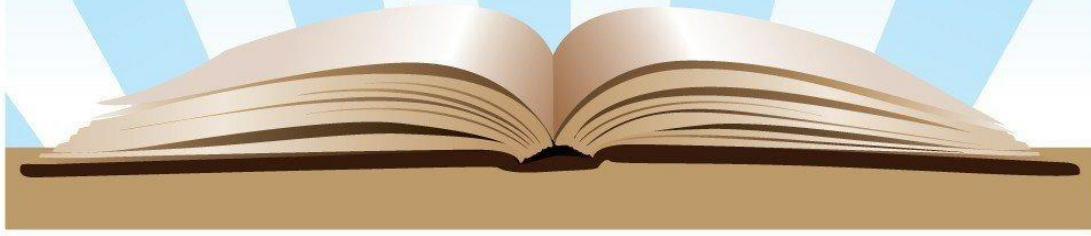
- Adam's sin brought death
- Jesus Christ brought life through His death

But it also mean

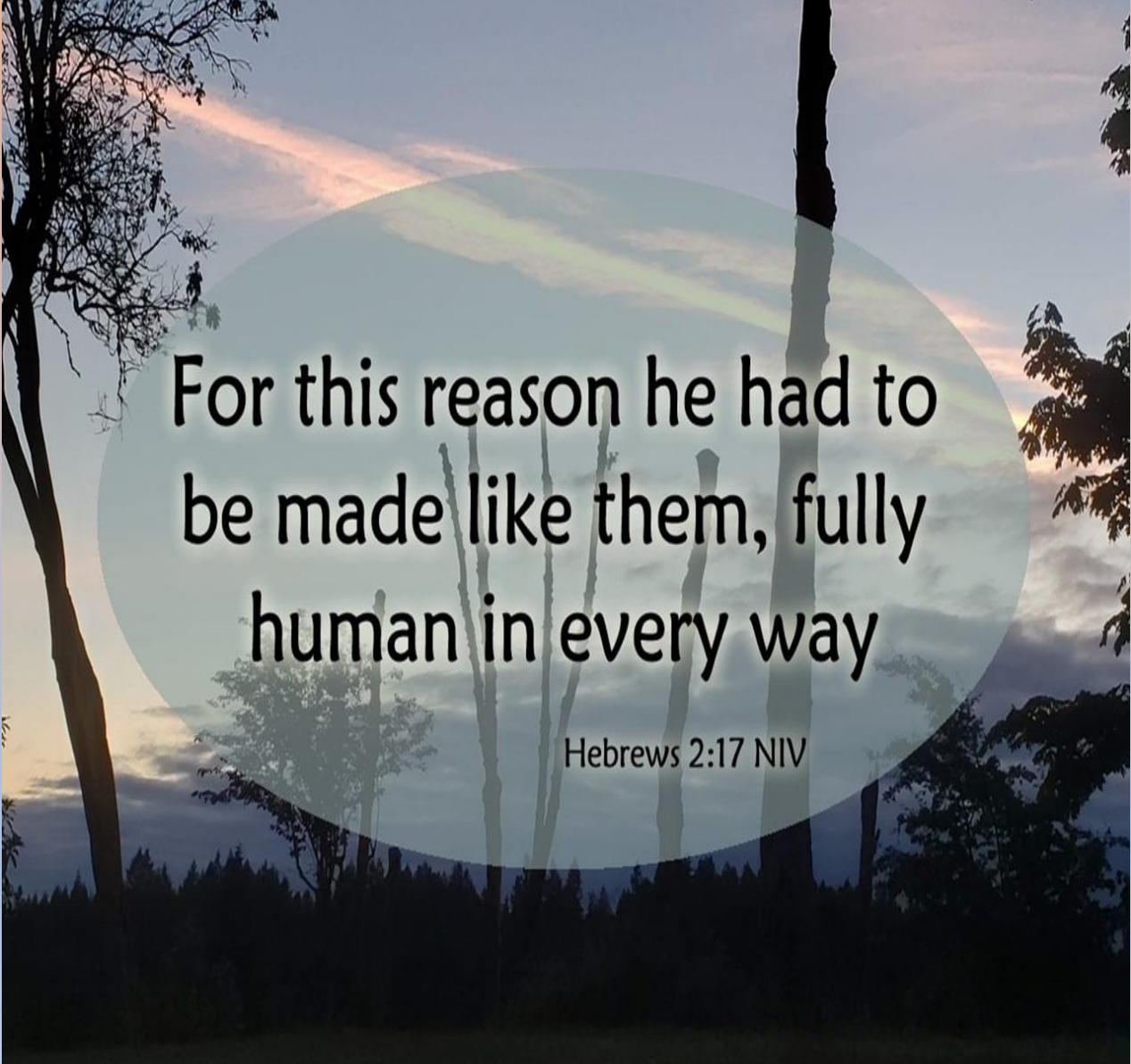
Human limitations:

- He walked.....tired....thirst and hungry
- He was sad....cried
- He slept.
- He also suffered painfully and died a cruel death

**For we do not have
a high priest who is
unable to empathize with
our weaknesses, but we have
one who has been tempted
in every way, just as we are
-yet He did not sin.-
-Hebrews 4:15**



- He was tempted but did not sin



For this reason he had to
be made like them, fully
human in every way

Hebrews 2:17 NIV

- As our High Priest
- He understand the suffering of temptation and human weaknesses. (Heb 2:17)

Athanasian creed:

- 'Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is God and man; perfect God, and perfect man: yet is he not two, but one Christ; one, not by conversion of the Godhead into flesh: but by taking of the manhood into God

God incarnate

Perfect God, perfect man

Born to die

**Our Lord Jesus Christ
... though He was rich,
yet for your sakes
He became poor,
that you through
His poverty
might be rich.**

2 Corinthians 8:9



- The crucial significance of the birth at Bethlehem..... led to the cross of Calvary.

Hope for sinners

- hope for pardon,
 - hope for peace with God,
 - hope for glory
-
- According to the Father's will Jesus Christ became poor, and was born in a stable

A wooden cross is the central visual element, set against a vibrant red background. The cross is made of weathered wood and is positioned slightly to the left of the center. The text is overlaid on the cross and the background.

HE MADE HIMSELF NOTHING BY TAKING THE VERY
NATURE OF A SERVANT, BEING MADE IN HUMAN
LIKENESS. AND BEING FOUND IN APPEARANCE AS A MAN

**HE HUMBLED
HIMSELF BY
BECOMING OBEDIENT
TO DEATH**

PHILIPPIANS

2:7-8

- so that 30 years later he might hang on the cross.

Implications

- *Incarnation*

- Salvation
- Abundant life
- Miracles / healing
- Follow the model set by Jesus Christ

“Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:20-21)

- Jesus is the Savior



THERE IS SALVATION IN NO ONE
ELSE, FOR THERE IS NO OTHER
NAME UNDER HEAVEN BY WHICH
WE MUST BE SAVED THAN THE
NAME OF

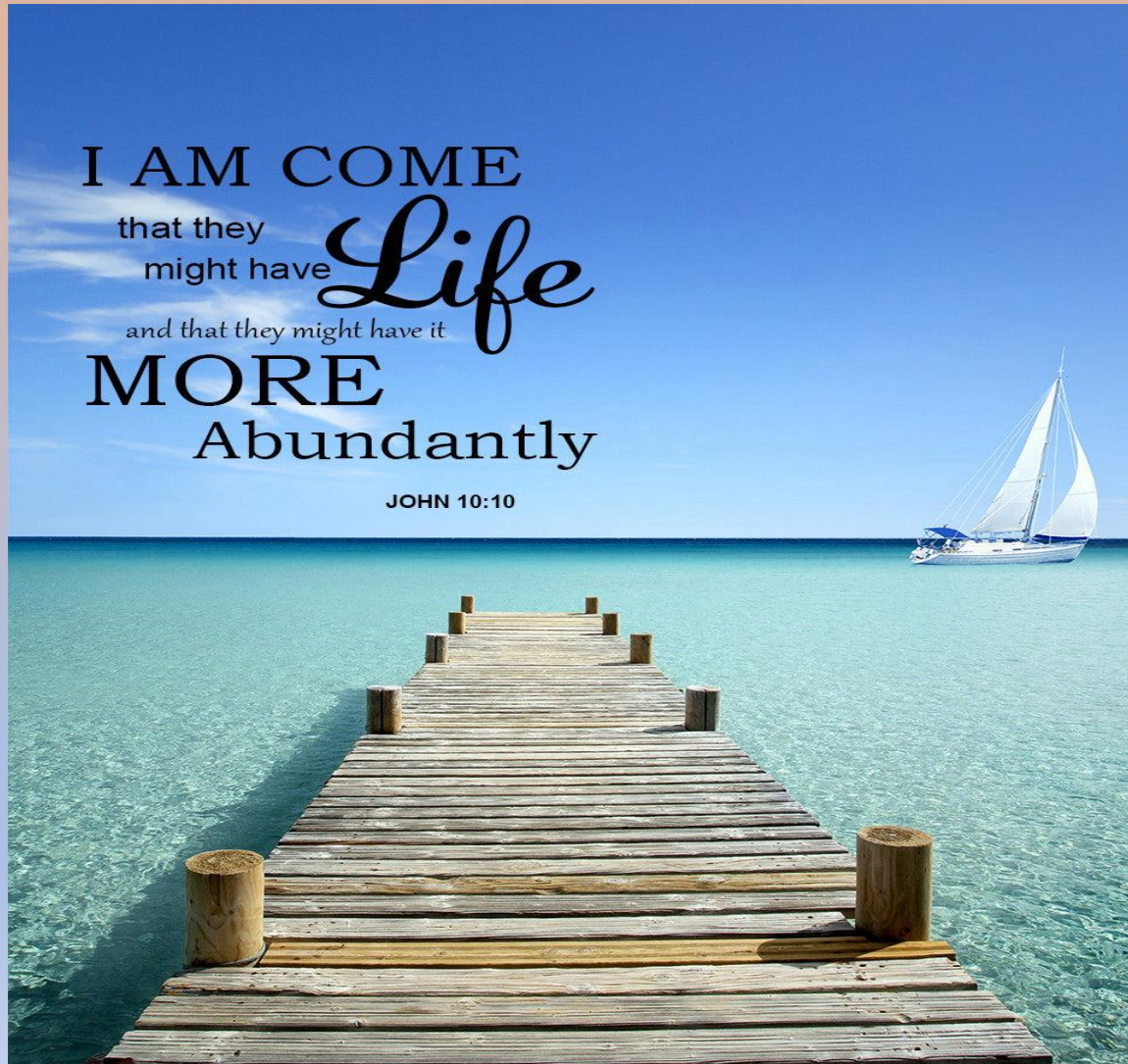
JESUS

ACTS 4:12

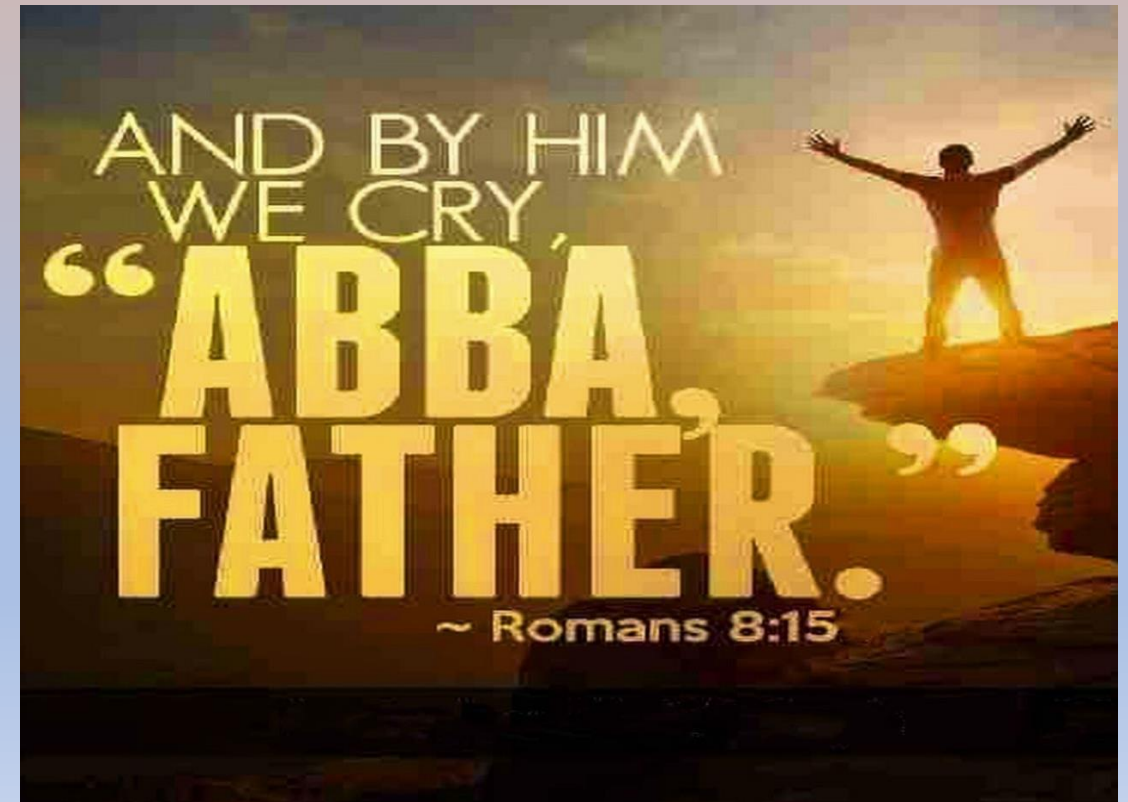
JESUS SAID TO HIM,
"I AM ^{THE} WAY,
^{AND} THE TRUTH, ^{THE} LIFE.
NO ONE
COMES TO THE FATHER
EXCEPT THROUGH
ME."

JOHN 14:6

Abundant life



- Invitation to know God as our Abba (Romans 8:15)



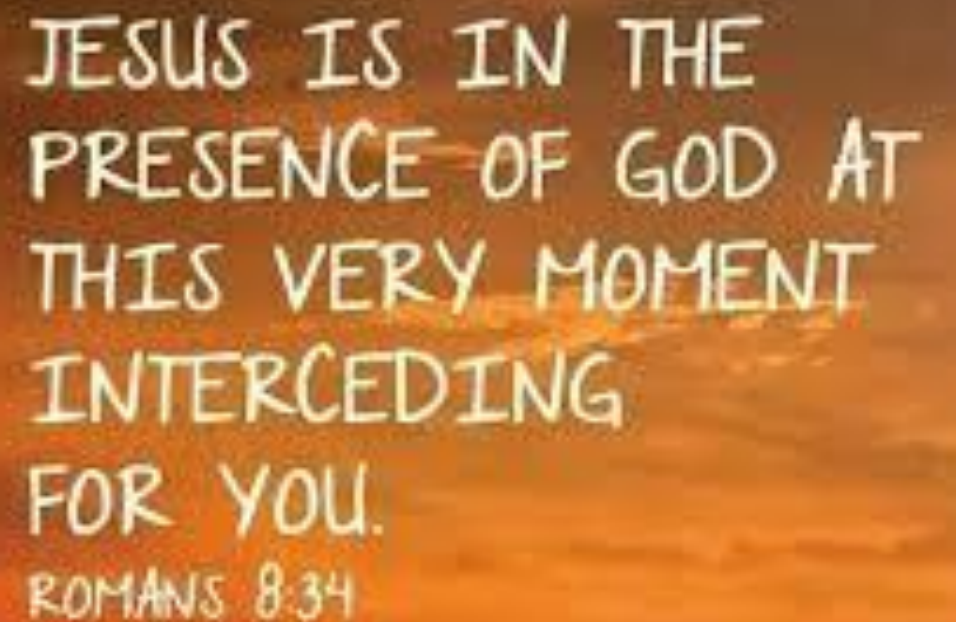
Miracles

- Do miracles still occur today?
- What about healing in the modern era when medicine had advanced so much?

Miracles...yes because of incarnation

- Priesthood of believers (1 Peter 2:9)
- call to pray for all needs (Phil 4:6)
- prayer for the sick offered in faith....healing (James 5:14-16)

- Do miracles and healing occur in the modern era?
- Yes, because of incarnation

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water, with the sky transitioning from dark blue to orange and yellow. The water reflects the colors of the sky. Overlaid on the image is white, hand-drawn style text.

JESUS IS IN THE
PRESENCE OF GOD AT
THIS VERY MOMENT
INTERCEDING
FOR YOU.
ROMANS 8:34

Galatians 2:20



- Christ living in me....
example for us to follow
- Incarnate living

Philippians 2:5-8 (MSG)

- Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all.
- When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became a human!

Mindset of Christ

Mindset of Christ

- Having become a human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death – and the worst kind of death at that – a crucifixion.

Voluntarily:

- Set aside (forgo) His privilege of his deity
- Lived a selfless and obedient life
- Died a selfless and obedient death

Selfless and obedient life

Do nothing out of selfish
ambition or vain conceit.

**But in humility consider
others better than yourselves**

Each of you should look
not only to your own interests
but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:3-4



Unity: Colossians 3:12-14

Therefore, as God's
chosen people,
holy & dearly loved,
clothe yourselves
with compassion,
kindness, humility,
gentleness & patience.

***Bear with each other
& forgive one another.***

-Colossians 3:12-13

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Compassion, kindness,
humility, gentleness
and patience.....love

And over all these virtues put on love,
which binds them all together in perfect unity.

Colossians 3:14



DailyVerses.net

Be my witness

Acts 1:8-11

- ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”
- ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

Witnessing....urgent task



- The Lord is coming again... soon
- No time like today...may not be a tomorrow

THEN I SAW HEAVEN STANDING
OPEN, AND THERE BEFORE ME WAS
A WHITE HORSE. AND ITS RIDER IS
CALLED FAITHFUL AND TRUE. WITH
RIGHTEOUSNESS HE JUDGES AND
WAGES WAR.

- REVELATION 19:11



Go therefore and make disciples of
all the nations, baptizing them in the
Name of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them
to observe everything that I have
commanded you.

Matthew 28:19-20a

The Great Commission

Go therefore
and make
disciples
of all the
nations

**THE
GREAT
COMMISSION**

