

GOD BECAME MAN

John 1:14; 1 Timothy 3:16; Galatians 4:4-5; Philippians 2:5-11

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: There is no question that nobody has or will ever understand why God became a human being, a man, yet He did. The "incarnation" is the fact that God became a Man, and the "virgin birth" is the method by which God, the Son became Man. If Jesus Christ was not virgin born, then He was not God in the flesh and was just like any other human being, having a sinful nature. However conception in the womb of a virgin enabled Him to maintain His divinity as well as becoming a complete human being, a Man. In becoming a Man:

- *"...He made Himself of no reputation.."*
- *"...He took upon Him the form of a servant.."*
- *"...He was made in the likeness of men..."*
- *"...And being found in fashion as a man..."*
- *"...He humbled Himself..."*
- *"...He became obedient unto death..."*
- *"...even the death of the cross..."*

I. HE CAME TO REVEAL GOD TO MAN

1. God's greatest revelation of Himself to man is in His Son, Jesus Christ.
 - Man is so made by God that he recognizes the fact and power of God by just looking around.
 - Every human being can know that God is a being and that He is supreme.
 - It does not take the written scriptures to learn about God, for creation reveals God and the heavens reveal the glory of God's great creativeness.
2. God revealed Himself to Adam and to Abraham and others.
 - God spoke to Jacob, Joseph, Nebuchadnezzar, Joseph, Moses and the prophets.
 - Over 35 authors of the bible over a period of 1500 years were inspired by God, the Holy Spirit to produce God's written Word.
3. Of all the ways God has revealed Himself to man, none has been more clear and full than in the person of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - Philip said to Jesus, *"...Lord, shew us the Father...."and Jesus answered"...."He that hath seen Me, hath seen the Father..." (John 14:8-9)*
 - *"...No man hath seen God at anytime; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him..." (John 1:1, 8-9)*
4. One glimpse of Jesus Christ will bring God closer to one's mind and heart than all the theological definitions of Him.
 - No person can begin to understand just how perfect and Holy God is until He comes face to face with God's sinless Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

II. HE CAME TO REVEAL MAN TO HIMSELF

1. Jesus shows people who and what they are and what they may become.
 - Man needs to know where he came from.
 - God created the human race and is the greatest of all of God's creation.
 - God created man in His own image (shadow) and the body from the earth.
 - Created in the image and likeness of God, man differs from all other forms of life.
 - Man did not retain God's image and likeness for Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the Garden and died immediately spiritually and in a matter of time died physically.

- Since Adam all born into this world are spiritually dead in sin, having a sin-nature capable of trespassing against God in every way.
- In spite of what God's Word clearly states, people still think of themselves more highly than they ought.
- Time has not improved human nature.
 - Today people still ignore and even trample under foot the precious blood of God's Son and if they had the chance, they would re-crucify Jesus all over again.

III. HE CAME TO REDEEM MAN

1. ***"...But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law..." (Galatians 4:4-5)***
 - The Old Testament prophets spoke of the Messiah who could come to deliver the people from their sins.
 - Jesus Christ is man's Redeemer, Savior.
 - ***"...Thou shalt call His name JESUS (savior), for he shall save His people from their sins..." (Matthew 1:21)***
 - ***"...For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost..." (Luke 19:10)***
2. The awful state of the world caused God to send His Son for there was no hope of deliverance apart from Him.
 - God is merciful, gracious and slow to anger but every sin must still be dealt with.
 - God is love, but also holy and righteous and His righteousness demands that every sin must be dealt with.
3. In the Person of Jesus Christ God solved the problem of the sinner and his/her eternal well-being.
 - Jesus was to die as the sinner's perfect substitute and in doing so, redeem the sinner.
 - Jesus said, ***"...I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance..." (Mark 2:17)***
4. Had there been righteousness in the human heart, there would have been no need for God's Son to have come.
 - Whenever a person assumes his/her own righteousness by him/herself, that person is outside the reach of Jesus and will not be saved.
 - Every person must say as did Paul, ***"...This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief..." (1 Timothy 1:15)***

IV. HE CAME TO RESTRAIN SATAN

1. ***Hebrews 2:9, 14-15***
2. Jesus Christ came to die and willed to die, not a sudden and unexpected death, but a lingering, anticipated death that He would taste every day of His earthly mission. Jesus became man to suffer death.
 - ***"...through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil..."***
 - Satan is the spoiler of humanity, and his sole purpose is to bring both physical and spiritual death to all mankind.
 - In the Garden of Eden Satan came and drew the first couple away from God and therefore introduced spiritual and physical death to the human race.
3. By Jesus' coming into the world and through His death and resurrection, He took away from Satan the power of death.
 - Death no longer holds it's grip upon the Believer.
 - The coming of the Lord Jesus has rendered death as harmless, and it's sting is gone.
 - Satan has been defeated.

4. The shadow of the cross hung over the manger in Bethlehem, pointing out that the "Seed" of the woman would bruise the serpent's head as was spoken in the beginning.
 - As Adam yielded to Satan, Satan held him in death.
 - As Jesus died, He entered into the death of every believer and took away Satan's power which he holds over mankind.
 - At Calvary Satan was brought down and was judged.
 - Jesus conquered man's greatest enemy, Satan.

V. HE CAME TO RESCUE THE WHOLE CREATION

1. In the beginning all creation was at peace and all creatures were subject to man, however after Adam sinned and fell, the perfect environment changed. Will God ever restore creation back as it was before the fall?
 - ***Isaiah 11:6-9***
 - Beast and man were not at odds/difficulties with one another prior to sin entering the world.
 - To remove this curse and bring creation back to its Garden of Eden condition, one of the purposes of God's Son coming to earth is to restore things back as they once were.
 - God will indeed ***"...gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth, even in Him..." (Ephesians 1:10)***
2. Many believers in Jesus fail to see that the redemptive work of Jesus is wider than the salvation of mankind but that the whole creation is affected.
 - ***Romans 8:19-23***
 - Nature is now under the curse of sin as is mankind, and is groaning and travailing in pain.
 - Before Adam sinned, no savage beasts, no desert wastes, no thorns and thistles existed, but when he fell, all creation fell with him.
 - Since the Son of God has come and purchased redemption of mankind by His death at Calvary, the whole creation must now be rescued from the curse and restore to it's original state.

VI. HE CAME TO RESTORE ISRAEL

1. In all the prophecies the Messiah was promised to Israel and all Israel from the time of that prophecy has been looking for the Messiah to come for Israel has not been an authoritative nation since going into captivity.
 - Jesus came into the world and ***"...He came unto His own and His own received Him not..."***
 - Israel rejected Him saying they would not have Him to reign over them.
 - In blind unbelief the ones to whom the Messiah was promised, rejected Him.
 - Jesus came proclaiming ***"...Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand..."***
 - Jesus was opening the door into the Kingdom, but only the regenerated could enter.
 - Jesus, after offering Israel the promised Kingdom and they refused to listen, said to them, ***"...Therefore I say unto you, The Kingdom of God shall be taken from you and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof..." (Matthew 21:43)***
2. Israel has been set aside temporarily and will be restored when the "fulness of the Gentiles has come."
 - God gave Palestine to the Jews unconditionally as their possession and dwelling place and although they are scattered all over the world today, they will be restored to their Holy Land.
 - Jesus continue to return to their land today and all signs point to the return of the Son of God, who is both human and Divine.
 - Let every believer rejoice to see that day approaching.

VII. HE CAME TO REIGN

1. When Jesus was born, three wise men came from the East asking **"...Where is He that is born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and are come to worship Him..." (Matthew 2:1-2)**
 - The Son of God became Man in order that He might be King of the earth.
 - The Son of God will appear in His resurrected body and will sit on the throne of His glory.
 - **"...Every eye shall see Him..." (Revelation 1:7)**
 - God promises that the earthly throne and kingdom are to continue forever and that the One to occupy it shall be David's seed, his rightful Son.
2. Jesus Christ's kingdom is literal and such a kingdom people have been trying to establish for centuries.
 - A perfect kingdom demands a perfect King.
 - At the end of the conflict of ages, Jesus Christ, the God-Man, will return to earth to establish His righteous Kingdom which will never be destroyed.
 - **Luke 1:31-33**
3. When Jesus Christ, the King comes, THEN will His perfect will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
 - But before He comes to reign, He will return for His Bride, the Church. and that can be at any moment.

CONCLUSION:

1. This in no way explains or exhausts the divine purposes of Jesus' coming.
2. Jesus came to do what He did and in doing so, He glorified the Heavenly Father in everything He did.
3. **"...I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do..."**
4. All believers should be reminded: **"...For ye are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body, and in your Spirit, which are God's..." (1 Corinthians 6:20)**
5. If YOU are a Christian, it is because of what Jesus came to earth to do and you have responded the way Jesus wanted you to.
6. If YOU are NOT a Christian, right now is the time to put your eternal existence into the hands of the one who came to make it possible for you to have eternal life with Him in a place He is preparing this very moment.