



**PICTURES OF THE INCARNATION - God With Us**

The eternal, infinite God became a human being in Jesus Christ—a physical, limited, vulnerable, mortal being in history. The implications of this reality are vast and many. During this Christmas Season we will look at various pictures of this incredible reality of the Incarnation

Highland Colony Men's Roundtable  
[www.MensTable.com](http://www.MensTable.com)

December 23, 2021

**Pictures of the Incarnation:**  
**PEACE ON EARTH - GOOD WILL TO MEN - JOY TO THE WORLD!**  
**John 1:12-16; Luke 1:39-45; 2:8-14**

**Bible Verses:** John 1:12-16; Luke 1:39-45; Luke 2:18-14; II Corinthians 5:14-21  
**Music:** I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day (Civil War background)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZtNIZmnEMU>

**Resources:** *Sermon by Timothy Keller: Gospel in Life*  
**Video:** Fernando Ortega - Give me Jesus  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9rZ8k9m2hwo>

**Christmas: Picture of the Incarnation – What is Your Response?**

Man's Response:

- Not just **intellect** or **emotion** (James 2:19).
- Not just **emotional**.
- **Trusting** Jesus alone (Eph. 2:8,9).

Key Truths to Consider:

- Jesus **knocks** (Rev. 3:20).  
 - **Children** of God (John 1:12).
- Confess & **Believe** (Rom. 10:9-13).
- The **only way** (John 14:6).
- Hear & **Believe** (John 5:24; I John 5:11-13).

**Christmas: Pictures of the Incarnation – Diagram of the Gospel!**

**Christmas: Picture of the Incarnation – The Problem & The Plan.**

Man's Problem:

- **All Sin** – separated from God (Romans 3:23).
- Result is **Death** – Physically, Spiritually, & Eternally (Romans 6:23).
- Ultimately **Judgment** (Hebrews 9:27).

- God's Plan:
- God **Loves You** (John 3:16).
- **Abundant Life** – (John 10:10).
- **Eternal Life** – (John 17:3).

**Christmas: Picture of the Incarnation – The Gospel!**

1. **Jesus** > Isaiah 59:2. Not YOU > Not works, religion, or philosophy. Who is He > God/Man (John 1:14). What He did > Romans 5:8; I Cor. 15:3-5.
2. Commitment Questions:
  1. Admit your spiritual need. "I am a sinner!"
  2. Repent and be willing to turn from your sin.
  3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the cross.
  4. Receive—Trust, through prayer, Jesus Christ.
3. Clarification Questions:
  1. Realize you are a sinner and cannot save yourself.
  2. Recognize who Jesus is and what He did.
  3. Repent and be willing to turn from your sin.
  4. Receive Jesus and invite Him to come into your heart.
  5. Respond through prayer to this Gift.

**Christmas – Picture of the Incarnation – What is your Response?**

**Christmas: Good Time to Do Business with Jesus - Prayer of Commitment.**

Dear Lord Jesus,

I know that I'm a sinner and need your forgiveness. I believe that you died for my sins. I now invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as Lord and Savior. In Jesus name, Amen.

Dear Lord Jesus,

Today, I renew my trust in you to show me Your ways, teach me Your paths, guide me in Your truth and teach me, for You are my Lord and Savior, and my hope is in You all day long. In Jesus name, Amen.

**"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"**

<p>I heard the bells on Christmas day          Their old familiar carols play          And mild and sweet their songs repeat          Of peace on earth good will to men</p> <p>And the bells are ringing (Peace on Earth)          Like a choir they're singing (Peace on Earth)          In my heart I hear them          Peace on earth, good will to men</p> <p>And in despair I bowed my head          There is no peace on earth I said          For hate is strong and mocks the song          Of peace on earth, good will to men</p>	<p>But the bells are ringing (Peace on Earth)          Like a choir singing (Peace on Earth)          Does anybody hear them?          Peace on earth, good will to men</p> <p>Then rang the bells more loud and deep          God is not dead, nor doth He sleep (Peace on Earth, peace on Earth)          The wrong shall fail, the right prevail          With peace on earth, good will to men</p> <p>Then ringing singing on its way          The world revolved from night to day          A voice, a chime, a chant sublime          Of peace on earth, good will to men</p>	<p>And the bells they're ringing (Peace on Earth)          Like a choir they're singing (Peace on Earth)          And with our hearts we'll hear them          Peace on earth, good will to men</p> <p>Do you hear the bells they're ringing? (Peace on Earth)          The life the angels singing (Peace on Earth)          Open up your heart and hear them (Peace on Earth)          Peace on earth, good will to men          Peace on earth, Peace on earth          Peace on earth, Good will to men</p>
---	---	---

**Bible Verses – The Message**

<p><b>John 1:12-16 - 12</b> But whoever did want him, who believed he was who he claimed and would do what he said, He made to be their true selves, their child-of-God selves. <b>13</b> These are the God-begotten, not blood-begotten, not flesh-begotten, not sex-begotten. <b>14</b> The Word became flesh and blood and moved into the neighborhood. We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son, Generous inside and out, true from start to finish. <b>15</b> John pointed him out and called, "This is the One! The One I told you was coming after me but in fact was ahead of me. He has always been ahead of me, has always had the first word." <b>16</b> We all live off his generous bounty, gift after gift after gift.</p> <p><b>Luke 1:39-45 - 39</b> Mary didn't waste a minute. She got up and traveled to a town in Judah in the hill country, <b>40</b> straight to Zachariah's house, and greeted Elizabeth. <b>41</b> When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby in her womb leaped. She was filled with the Holy Spirit, <b>42</b> and sang out exuberantly, You're so blessed among women, and the babe in your womb, also blessed! <b>43</b> And why am I so blessed that the mother of my Lord visits me? <b>44</b> The moment the sound of your greeting entered my ears, The babe in my womb skipped like a lamb for sheer joy. <b>45</b> Blessed woman, who believed what God said, believed every word would come true!</p> <p><b>Luke 2:18-14 - 18</b> All who heard the shepherders were impressed. <b>19</b> Mary kept all these things to herself, holding them dear, deep within herself. <b>20</b> The shepherders returned and let loose, glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard and seen. It turned out exactly the way they'd been told! <b>21</b> When the eighth day arrived, the day of circumcision, the child was named Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was</p>	<p>conceived. <b>22</b> Then when the days stipulated by Moses for purification were complete, they took him up to Jerusalem to offer him to God <b>23</b> as commanded in God's Law: "Every male who opens the womb shall be a holy offering to God," <b>24</b> and also to sacrifice the "pair of doves or two young pigeons" prescribed in God's Law.</p> <p><b>II Corinthians 5:14-21 - 14</b> Christ's love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do. <b>15</b> He included everyone in his death so that everyone could also be included in his life, a resurrection life, a far better life than people ever lived on their own. <b>16</b> Because of this decision we don't evaluate people by what they have or how they look. We looked at the Messiah that way once and got it all wrong, as you know. We certainly don't look at him that way anymore. <b>17</b> Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it! <b>18</b> All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. <b>19</b> God put the world square with himself through the Messiah, giving the world a fresh start by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. <b>20</b> We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them. We're speaking for Christ himself now: Become friends with God; he's already a friend with you. <b>21</b> How? you say. In Christ. God put the wrong on him who never did anything wrong, so we could be put right with God.</p>
--	---

**Philip K. Hardin, M.A., M.Div.**

Director of Business & Professional Outreach, Intl. - Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, and Certified Life Coach  
 563 Johnson Avenue – Fairhope, Alabama 36532  
 Phone: 601-925-0707

Email: [phil@bpointl.org](mailto:phil@bpointl.org)

Webpage: [www.bpointl.org](http://www.bpointl.org)