



## ASTONISHED!

Part 4: God Became a Man (John 1:1-18)  
Sermon Q & A: 720.815.5717 (text only)

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### God became a man in Jesus Christ!

#### I. Our Cultural of Agnosticism

We are tossed around by the waves with no anchor or fixed point by which to navigate our lives ... having rejected the idea that God and truth can actually be known.

*"...the crushing weight of the secular outlook ... permeates or pressures every thought we have today. Sometimes it even forces those who self-identify as Christian teachers to set aside Jesus' plain statements about the reality and total relevance of the Kingdom of God and replace them with philosophical speculations whose only recommendation is their consistency with a 'modern'[i.e., contemporary] mindset. The powerful though vague and unsubstantiated understanding of reality is that something has been found out that renders a spiritual understanding of reality in the manner of Jesus simply foolish to those who are 'in the know.'" Dallas Willard, Professor of Philosophy, University of Southern California*

*"Spirituality is in, but no one knows which form to embrace. Indeed, the very idea that one form may be better than another seems arrogant and intolerant." J. P. Moreland, "The Kingdom Triangle"*

#### II. The Truth of Jesus Christ

##### A. God became a man in Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the eternal *Word/Logos* of God (v.1-2, 14, 18). The Jew would hear that Jesus is the Word of the Lord through which the Lord creates, sustains and communicates (Isaiah 40:6-8, 55:10-11; Hosea 1:2). The Gentile would have heard the rational principle that created and governs the world is not an impersonal force, but a person!

The *Word/Logos* became a man in Jesus Christ (v.14). Here is the central mystery of Christianity.

Jesus is the "One and Only" (*monogenes* = *one/solitary kind* = *one of a kind*) (v.14,18). Jesus is the "one-of-a-kind, unique, unmatched" person in the history of the world, because He is the God-man. He is fully God and fully man!

*"In the person of Jesus, God physically entered our world. An infinite God came to live in a finite world. ... In Jesus, God and man became one person, a person unlike anyone else the world has ever seen or will see." Wayne Grudem, "Christian Beliefs"*

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We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
The only Son of God,  
Eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
True God from true God,  
Begotten, not made,  
Of one Being with the Father.

...

The Nicene Creed (381 AD)

## **B. Jesus is the God-Man, who fully reveals God to us.**

(John 1:18, Colossians 1:15-18, Hebrews 1:1-4)

*"The reason we must reject this increasingly popular position is that we are committed to the uniqueness of Jesus (he has no competitors) and his finality (he has no successors)... So, because in no other person but Jesus of Nazareth did God first become human (in his birth), then bear our sins (in his death), then conquer death (in his resurrection) and then enter his people (by his Spirit), he is uniquely able to save sinners. Nobody else has his qualifications."*  
John Stott

## **III. The Love of God in Jesus Christ (John 3:16)**

Q: How far would God go to reveal Himself to us and save us?

*"Jesus Christ was, and forever will be, fully God and fully man in one person. And that one person changed the course of history forever."*  
Wayne Grudem, "Christian Beliefs"

### **Discussion Questions (for small groups or the dinner table):**



What has been your experience in our culture with agnosticism (we can't know anything for certain about God) and relativism (there is no absolute truth)?



What specifically does John say about Jesus of Nazareth?



What are the implications for you?