

# The Incarnation: Tradition and Truth Have you Beheld the Glory of Christ the Messiah?

*The Word was with God...  
The Word became flesh...  
We beheld His glory...  
Of His fullness we have received...  
...Have you?*

## 1. God Tabernacles with Man *John 1:14*

### The Old Testament Tabernacle and the Incarnation



*And the Word became flesh and dwelt (tabernacled) among us...*

*Exo 25:8-9; Exo 40:34-38; 1 Cor 3:16*

Christ is the locus of God's dwelling with Israel as He had dwelled with them in the tabernacle in the desert.

**The Incarnation:** Jesus left his usual place [with God] and accepted the conditions of

human life and chose NOT to use His divine attributes.

*Philippians 2:5-11*

As believers we now become partakers of His divine nature and to the extent that He will permit us—we can use and experience His power! *2 Peter 1:2-4*

## 2. The Glory of God *John 1:14*

*...and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father...*

The glory was Jesus Himself—God in the flesh. When John and the rest of the disciples looked at Him—they saw the glory of God. The ‘tabernacle’ of God among men. *Revelation 21:3*



## 3. The Fullness of God *John 1:14; :16 — Col 2:9-10; Col 1:19*

*...full of grace and truth... (:14)*

*And of His fullness we have all received... (:16)*

- **Full of grace and truth:** In these two words, ‘grace’ and ‘truth’ the character of divine revelation is summed up.
- **And of His fullness we have all received:** When we receive Christ as savior we receive the fullness [or completeness] of His ‘grace’ and ‘truth.’ *Eph 3:19; 4:13*

## 4. Grace for grace! *John 1:16*

The expression ‘**grace for grace**’ probably means “**grace upon grace**” or “abundant grace.” Here grace means God's gracious favor which He showers on His beloved children.



Grace upon grace is like the ‘**manna**’ from heaven—it just kept coming: **manna for manna**. The incarnation brought the true manna to earth—Jesus the bread of life.

*Psalms 78:24; John 6:35*

And the Word  
became flesh...

**:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

**:2 He was in the beginning with God. :3 All things were made through Him, and with-**

**out Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. :5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.**

**:6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. :7 This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. :8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. :9 That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. :10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. :11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. :12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: :13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.**

**:14 And the Word became 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. :15 John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" :16 And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. :17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. :18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.**

*John 1:1-18 NKJV*