

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