

## What Child Is This 2018-12-23

### John 1:1-3, 14

#### *John 1:1-3*

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

#### *John 1:14*

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

Ever hard to believe someone's past or where they ended up? Testimony

- I think that's true of world regarding who Jesus is.

Jesus existed long before world was created. John 17:5 Genesis 1:1, John 1:1-3

- In time before time...in eternity past Jesus Christ was God and was with God.
  - Our triune God....coequal, coexistent and coeternal.
- Can't know an infinite God and His ways unless He reveals Self. John 1:18

So God broke into the universe He created by doing something absolutely humanly impossible. John 1:14, Luke 1:31-37, Isaiah 7:14

- By God's choice, initiative, love, and infinite wisdom He used virgin birth to make possible the uniting of full deity/full humanity in one person.
  - Maker of all things shrank down to become a small ovum, single, fertilized egg in womb of a virgin, in person of Jesus Christ
- Somehow unfallen humanity added to deity. Isaiah 9:6, Colossians 2:9 & 1:15-17
  - NOT set aside His deity but voluntary use of His power as God.
- 2 distinct natures in Jesus Christ retain own properties yet together in 1 person.
  - Fragile baby Mary held was holding universe in place!
    - Heart of Christian faith is that Jesus Christ, son of Mary, is Lord God Almighty in the flesh. God is with us.

Jesus is not simply revealer of God but God Himself revealed.

- In Jesus, we can see face, hear voice of God Himself. Hebrews 1:1-3
  - Thru His words/actions, the world could understand/believe in God.

Birth of Jesus points us to unexplainable oxymoron: a humble God. Philippians 2:6-9

- Jesus choose barn over majesty, smell of manure over sweet aroma of prayers, dingy clothes over robe of glory, rejection over worship.
  - Before Jesus' birth, almost no pagan author used "humble" as compliment....but that soon changed.

His humility on full display as He stepped into His creation to fulfill His primary earthly purpose....serve humanity by providing way to be eternally with Him in heaven.

- incarnation is the 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest truth.....Greatest is this God who became man loved us enough to die for us. Matthew 1:20-23, Welcome to Our World

Welcome to Our World by Chris Rice

*Fragile fingers sent to heal us, tender brow prepared for thorns, tiny heart whose blood will save us, unto us is born, so wrap our injured flesh around you, breathe our air and walk our sod, rob our sin and make us holy, perfect Son of God.*

- Pure, innocent newborn offering Himself as our sacrificial substitute. *Gospel*

Jesus Christ at beginning and end of time and every life. Revelation 21:6-7

- There before time began, created entire universe and gives life to all.
  - Humbly left heavenly throne for barn > went to vicious, beautiful cross > returned in glory to heavenly throne.
- He is the end of the future.....stands at end of every path upon which every creature and human being who ever lived travels.

What child this? He is Jesus Christ....infinite, almighty God, the Creator, giver of all life, humble servant, Savior, and Friend who is for you, with you and in you.

- Merry Christmas.....babe in manger is the eternal, living King who reigns in power & glory forever!