

Incarnation of Jesus

1. **What** is the incarnation of Jesus?
2. **How** does the incarnation of Jesus work?
3. **Why** is the incarnation of Jesus important?

1. **What** is the incarnation of Jesus?

The incarnation is the event at which God became flesh and took human form in the person of Jesus. It comes from a Latin word that means to become flesh or be in-fleshed; the famous Christmas carol, Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, refers to the incarnation involving God being "veiled in the flesh". Write a definition for "incarnation".

Incarnation

The biblical passages in which the incarnation is described include the nativity of Jesus, as recounted in the gospels of Matthew and Luke, and the opening verses of the Gospel of John, which is known as the prologue. Make a note about what the Gospel of Luke and the Gospel of John record about the incarnation of Jesus.

What the Incarnation of Jesus Is	
Luke	John

2. **How** does the incarnation of Jesus work?

What is the incarnation about, and how do Christians understand it? Although many things go on across the accounts of the incarnation, their primary function is to demonstrate Jesus's identity. The incarnation stories found in the nativity accounts from Matthew and Luke's gospels and the prologue to the Gospel of John tell Christians essential things about Jesus's nature. Principally, the nativity stories emphasise Jesus's messiahship whilst, in the prologue, the stress is on Jesus's divinity. For example, the nativity story in the Gospel of Luke implies Jesus's messiahship by showing the reader how Jesus fulfils messianic expectations. Make a note about how the Gospel of Luke works to demonstrate Jesus's messiahship and how the Gospel of John works to demonstrate Jesus's divinity.

How the Incarnation of Jesus Works

Luke

John

3. **Why** is the incarnation of Jesus important?

The belief that Jesus was God the Son, as well as the messiah, may have been behind the charges of blasphemy that he faced during his ministry and at his trial before the Jewish authorities immediately before his death. Write a definition for "blasphemy".

Blasphemy

The nativity stories in the gospels of Matthew and Luke show that Jesus fulfils expectations about the messiah whilst the prologue in the Gospel of John confirms Jesus's divinity (the Word of God was God and became human). Make a note about why the incarnation is important.

Why the Incarnation of Jesus Is Important