

Christmas Unmasked

The **PERSON** of Christmas: The Baby came to **be with us**.

1 John 1:1–4 (NLT) **“We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw Him with our own eyes and touched Him with our own hands. He is the Word of life.”** ² This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen Him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that He is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then He was revealed to us. ³ We proclaim to you what we ourselves have actually seen and heard so that you may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son, Jesus Christ. ⁴ We are writing these things so that you may fully share our joy.”
Isaiah 9:6 (NIV84) “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Jesus brought **deity** to **humanity**.

Isaiah 9:6a (NIV84) “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders.”

1. For to us a **“child is born,”** speaks of His **humanity**.

Isaiah 7:14 (NIV) “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel.”

2. For to us a **“son is given,”** speaks of His **deity**.

John 3:16 (NIV84) “For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

Galatians 4:4 (NLT) “...when the right time came, God sent His Son, born of a woman, subject to the law.”

Jesus brought **hope** to the **hopeless**.

Isaiah 9:6b (NIV84) “...And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

1. His **care is constant**.

1 Peter 5:7 (NIV84) “Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you.”

2 Corinthians 1:3–4 (NIV84) “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.”

2. His **perspective is infinite**.

Isaiah 9:6 (NET) “For a child has been born to us, a son has been given to us. He shoulders responsibility and is called: Extraordinary Strategist, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

Romans 8:28 (NASB) “...God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

Isaiah 9:6b (NIV84) “Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

3. His **experience is definite**.

Isaiah 53:3 (NIV) “He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.”

Hebrews 4:15 (NIV) “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.”

Digging Deeper Christmas is God unmasked. The One that was unapproachable approached us. In what ways has God tried to get your attention? Jesus brought hope to the hopeless. Does “hopeless” describe you or a situation that you find yourself in? How does it feel to know that God cares about you—that He doesn’t just sympathize, He empathizes with you? Who do you know that needs to hear this message?