



The Greatest Gift

**Part 4 - The Gift of
the Reconciling Savior**

The Meaning of Christmas in Two Words



The Greatest Gift

The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord...

Luke 2:10-11, 13-14 NRSV

...And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!'"

Luke 2:10-11, 13-14 NRSV

For God in all his fullness was pleased to live in Christ, and through him God reconciled everything to himself.

Colossians 1:19-20 NLT

Incarnation:

How Did the Son of God
Come to Earth?



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Reconciliation:

Why Did the Son of God
Come to Earth?

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Unwrapping the Gift of Reconciliation



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**1. The Need: We Are Not
Morally Presentable**

*And you, who once were alienated
and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds,
he has now reconciled in his body of
flesh by his death, in order to present
you holy and blameless and above
reproach before him*

Colossians 1:21-22 ESV

*For what can be known about God
is plain to them, because God has
shown it to them...*

Romans 1:19-20 ESV

*...For his invisible attributes, namely,
his eternal power and divine nature,
have been clearly perceived,
ever since the creation of the world,
in the things that have been made.
So, they are without excuse.*

Romans 1:19-20 ESV



**2. The Work: Christ is
Our Atoning Sacrifice**

And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Colossians 1:20 NIV

If the animal you present as a burnt offering is from the herd, it must be a male with no defects. Bring it to the entrance of the Tabernacle so you may be accepted by the LORD...

Leviticus 1:3-4 NLT

*...Lay your hand on the animal's head,
and the LORD will accept its death in
your place to purify you, making you
right with him.*

Leviticus 1:3-4 NLT

He will lay both of his hands on the goat's head and confess over it all the wickedness, rebellion, and sins of the people of Israel. In this way, he will transfer the people's sins to the head of the goat...

Leviticus 16:21-22 NLT

...Then a man specially chosen for the task will drive the goat into the wilderness. As the goat goes into the wilderness, it will carry all the people's sins upon itself into a desolate land.

Leviticus 16:21-22 NLT

3. The Results of Reconciliation:

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A. Individual Beauty

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Yet now he has reconciled you to himself...As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault.

Colossians 1:22 NLT

***Tamar...by Rahab...by Ruth
...the wife of Uriah.***

Matthew 1:3, 5, 6

But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.

1 John 1:9 NLT

3. The Results of Reconciliation:

A. Individual Beauty

B. Cosmic Synergy



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*He existed before anything else,
and he holds all creation
together...and through him God
reconciled everything to himself...*

Colossians 1:17,20 NLT

*...He made peace with everything in
heaven and on earth by means of
Christ's blood on the cross.*

Colossians 1:17,20 NLT

The Son radiates God's own glory and expresses the very character of God, and he sustains everything by the mighty power of his command...

Hebrews 1:3 NLT

...When he had cleansed us from our sins, he sat down in the place of honor at the right hand of the majestic God in heaven.

Hebrews 1:3 NLT