

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

December 25, 2022

Pastor Brian

“This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet: “Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’” (Matthew 1:18–23, NLT)

WHO WAS THE CHILD IN THE MANGER?

1. MESSIAH.

“Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being.” (Matthew 16:15–17, NLT)

2. MIRACLE.

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14, NKJV)

“But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman...” (Galatians 4:4, NLT)

3. MIGHTY GOD!

*“For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, **Mighty God**, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity.” (Isaiah 9:6–7a, NLT)*

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (John 1:1, 14, NIV)

“For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body.” (Colossians 2:9, NLT)

WHY I NEED A GOD WITH SKIN

1. HE HEARS ME WHEN I AM HELPLESS.

“In panic I cried out, “I am cut off from the LORD!” But you heard my cry for mercy and answered my call for help.” (Psalm 31:22, NLT)

2. HE HELPS ME WHEN I AM HUMBLLED.

“When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...” (Isaiah 43:2–3, NLT)

3. HE HEALS ME WHEN I AM HURTING.

JESUS: *“The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is upon me, for the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to...tell those who mourn that the time of the LORD’s favor has come...To all who mourn in Israel, he will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair.” (Isaiah 61:1–3a, NLT)*

4. HE GIVES ME HOPE WHEN I FEEL HOPELESS.

“Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal comfort and a wonderful hope, comfort you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say.” (2 Thessalonians 2:16–17, NLT)

LAST THOUGHT:

CHRISTMAS HAPPENS WHENEVER I AM THE SKIN HE’S IN!

“God has chosen to make known...the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.” (Colossians 1:27, NIV)