



ADVENT

HOPE / PEACE / LOVE / JOY

GOD IS LOVE.

“Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

“God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.”

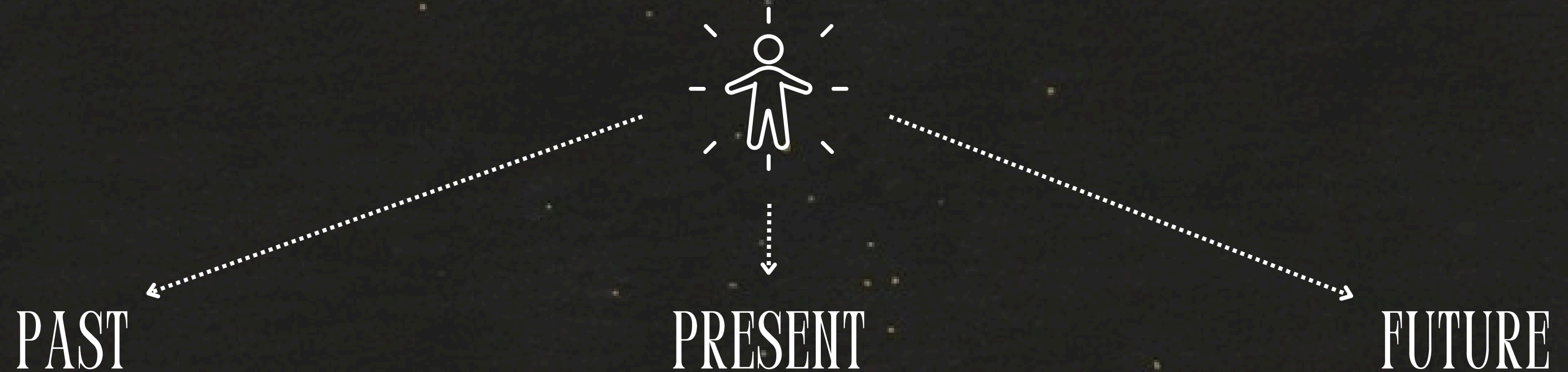
1 JOHN 4:8; 16

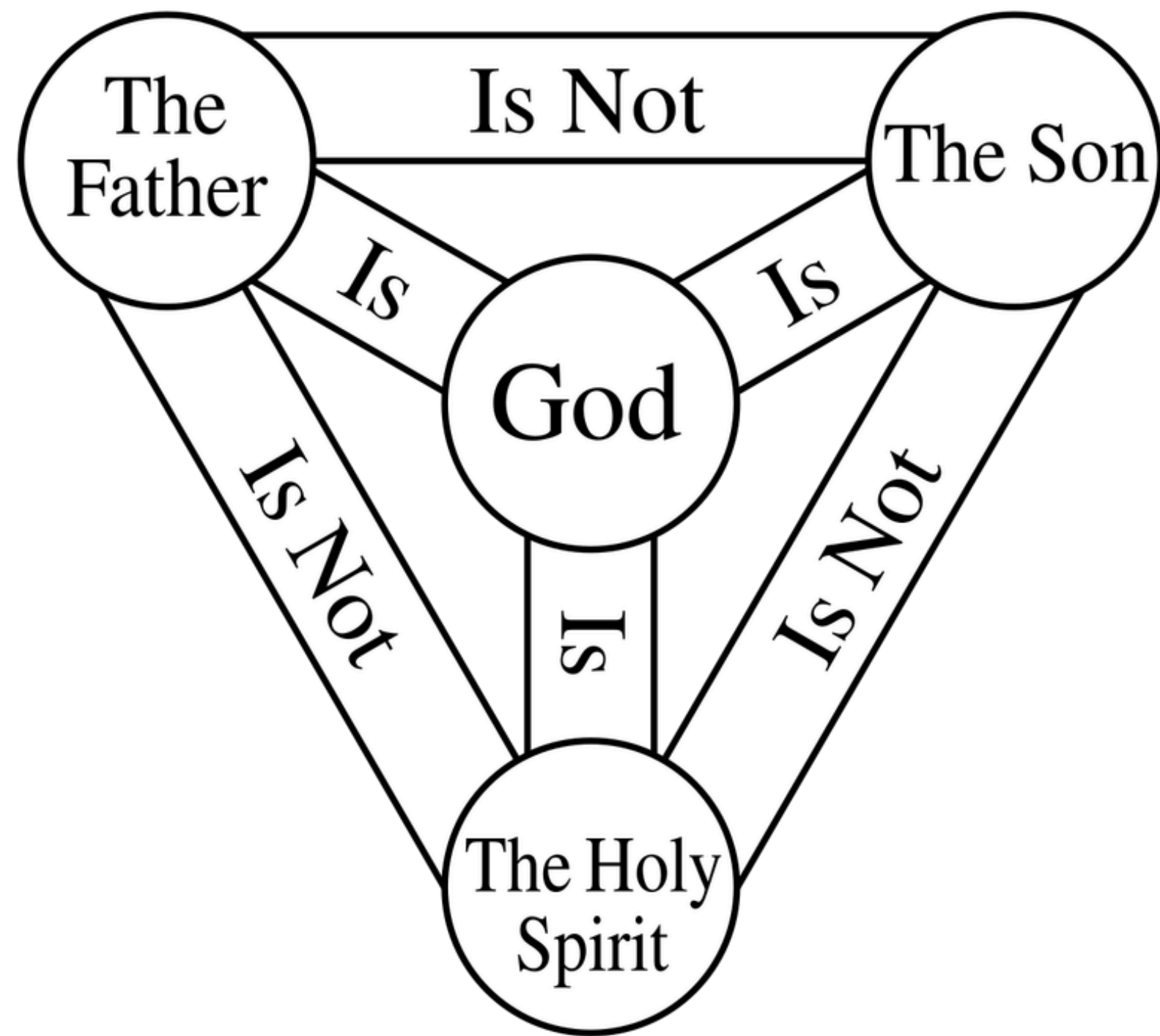
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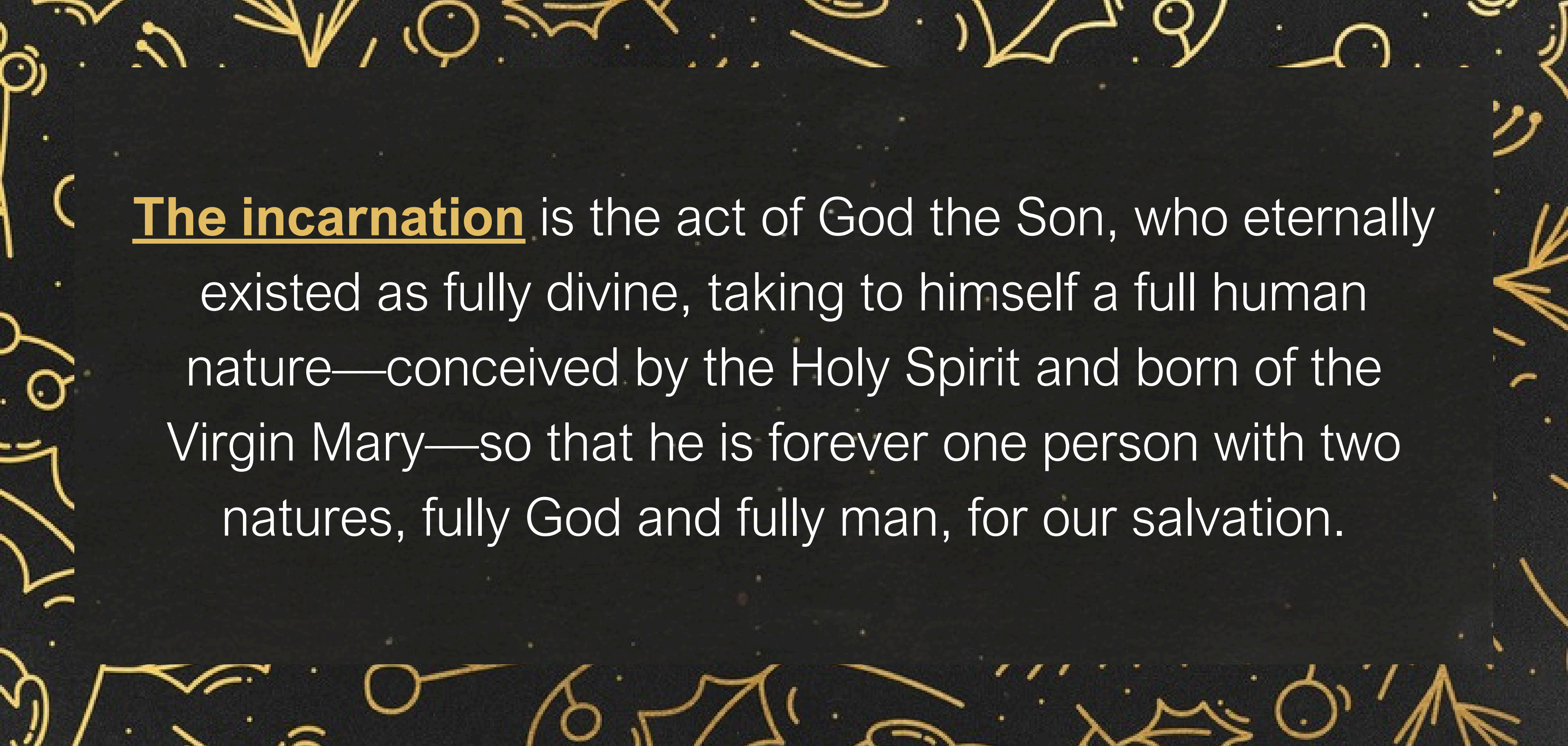
Love is not something God decides to do; it is part of
His essential character.

WAYNE GRUDEM

ADVENT: LOOKING TO THE PAST TO BUILD
ANTICIPATION FOR THE FUTURE IN THE PRESENT.

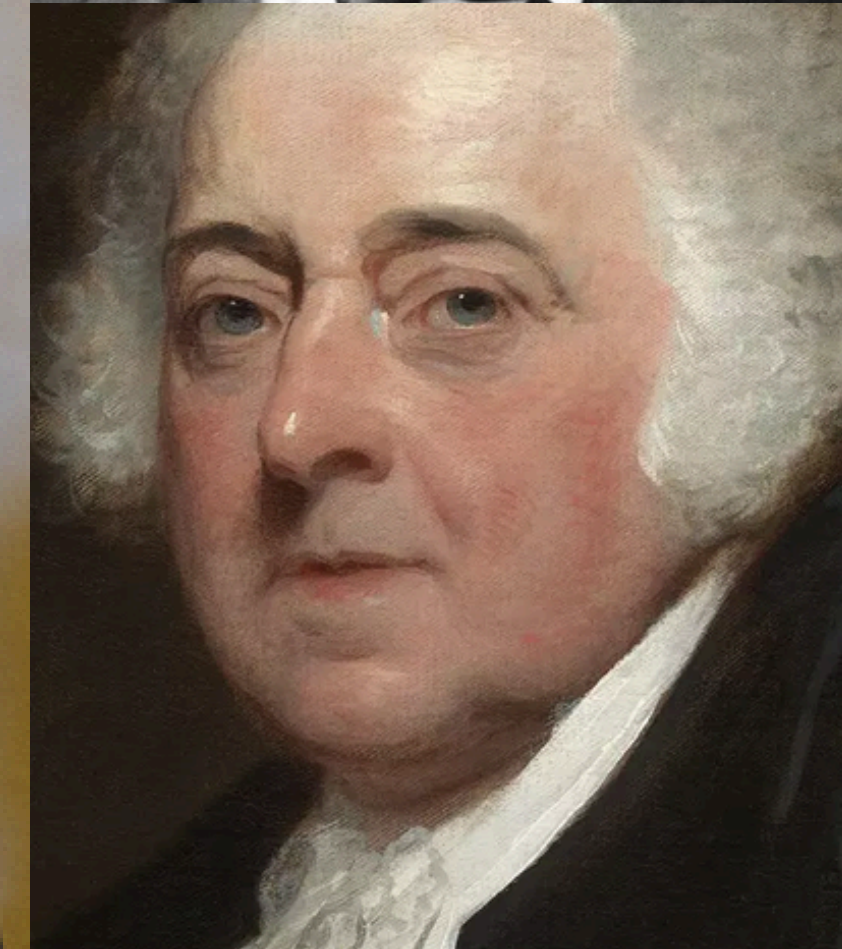
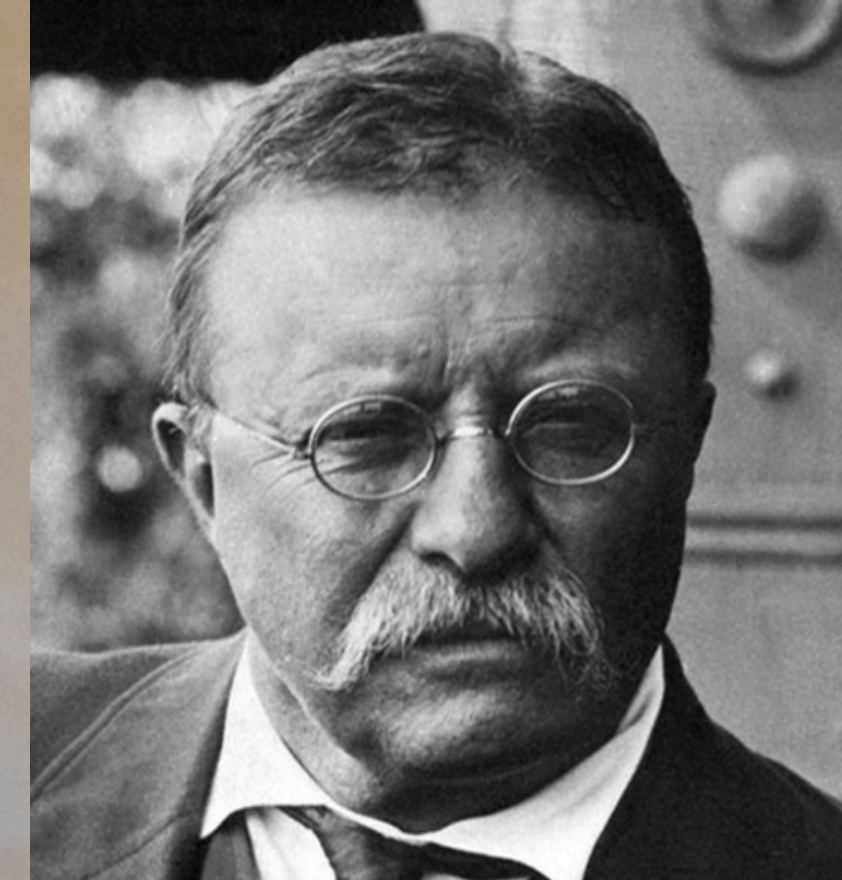






The incarnation is the act of God the Son, who eternally existed as fully divine, taking to himself a full human nature—conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary—so that he is forever one person with two natures, fully God and fully man, for our salvation.





For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

JOHN 6:38

After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, “Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.” ² At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. ³ And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. ⁴ Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. ⁵ From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, ⁶ and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

REVELATION 4:1-5

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: ⁷ the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. ⁸ And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!”

REVELATION 4:6-8

⁹ And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹ “Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”

REVELATION 4:9-11



Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ***Have this mind among yourselves***, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ***but emptied himself***, by taking the form of a servant, ***being born in the likeness of men***. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

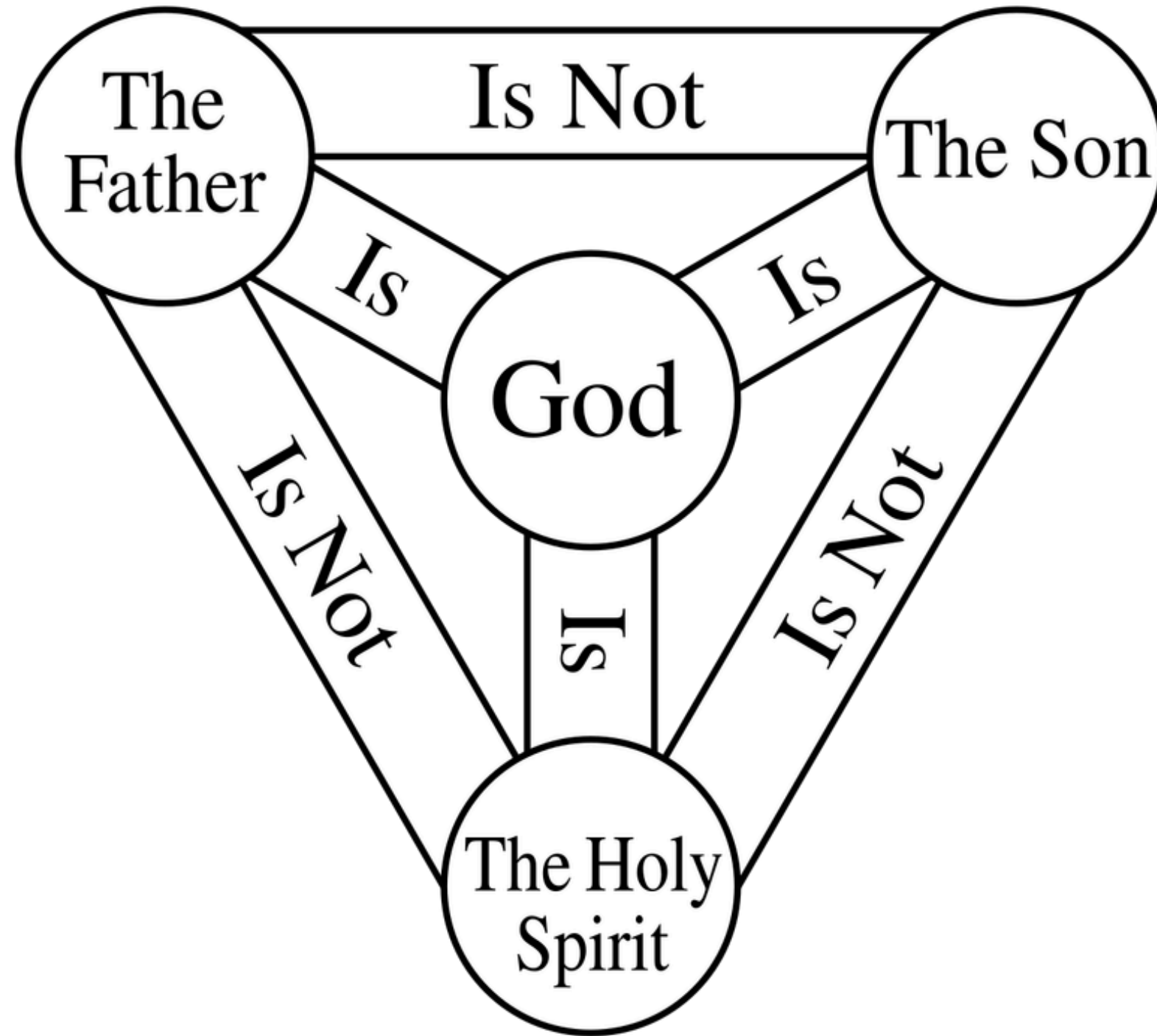
PHILIPPIANS 2:4-8





LIVE THE TEXT

PAST





PAST

Have *faith* that God will love you for eternity future.

- **NOTHING** can or will separate you from the love of God (Romans 8:38-39).
- You will be loved by God **FOREVER** (Psalm 136:1).
- God's full expression of love for us will be **PERFECTED** in the future (1 Corinthians 13:8-13).

FUTURE

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, **will be able to separate us from the love of God** in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ROMANS 8:38-39

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FUTURE

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for **his steadfast love endures forever.**

PSALM 136:1

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- You will be loved by God **FOREVER** (Psalm 136:1).
- God's full expression of love for us will be **PERFECTED** in the future (1 Corinthians 13:8-13).

FUTURE

⁸ Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² **For now we see in a mirror dimly,** but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

¹³ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

1 CORINTHIANS 13:8-13

READING:

1 JOHN 4:7-21

PRESENT