

Heroes of Christmas

Jesus, Hero of Christmas

Primary Text: Luke 2:1–20

Introduction

- The Christmas story is familiar, but familiarity can dull wonder.
- Christmas is not about God sending help or guidance, but God sending Himself.
- The incarnation is the central miracle of Christianity.
- In Jesus, God answers two deep human longings:
 - The longing to be understood
 - The longing for God to show up

I. God Became Like Us

A. The Eternal Son Entered Real Humanity

- Jesus did not merely appear human, He became human.
- He was born, grew, learned, hungered, tired, and suffered.
- This is not God observing humanity from a distance, but stepping into it.
- The question is not *if* He could do this, but *why* He would.

B. Jesus Understands Our Weakness (Hebrews 4)

- God does not demand we become like Him to reach Him.
- Instead, God became like us to show He understands us.
- Jesus experienced temptation, exhaustion, grief, betrayal, and obedience.
- His sympathy is not theoretical, it is experiential.

C. Application: Draw Near, Do Not Shrink Back

- Because Jesus understands us, we are invited to draw near with confidence.
- Grace is given in weakness.
- Mercy is given in failure.
- We approach God not in fear, but in confidence.

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II. God Came to Be With Us

A. The Unspoken Prayer of the Human Heart

- Beneath every belief system is the question, “If you are real, show up.”
- From Eden onward, humanity has both hidden from God and longed for Him.
- Christmas is God’s answer to that prayer.

B. Jesus Is God With Us

- Jesus is not merely God *for* us, but God *with* us.
- He walked our roads, lived among ordinary people, and entered our darkness.
- God did not rescue us from afar, He came near.

C. Christmas Points Forward

- The birth of Jesus is both a beginning and a promise.
- Christmas points toward the future dwelling of God with His people.
- The manger points to the throne.
- The first advent assures us there will be a second.

D. God With Us Through the Holy Spirit

- Until Christ returns, God remains with His people through the Holy Spirit.
- God now dwells not just among us, but within us.
- Christmas reminds us that God came near to be known.

Conclusion

- Christmas celebrates a God who understands us and stays with us.
- We are not alone, forgotten, or beyond grace.
- Because God has come, we draw near with confidence.
- He has come.
- He is with us.
- He will be with us forever.

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Communion Reflection

- Christmas reveals that God became like us and came for us.
- The story does not end at the manger, it leads to the cross.
- The baby born became the Lamb slain.
- Communion celebrates the purpose of His coming:
 - To save sinners
 - To bring the lost home
 - To give us confidence to approach the throne of grace