

*the incarnation of*

**GOD**

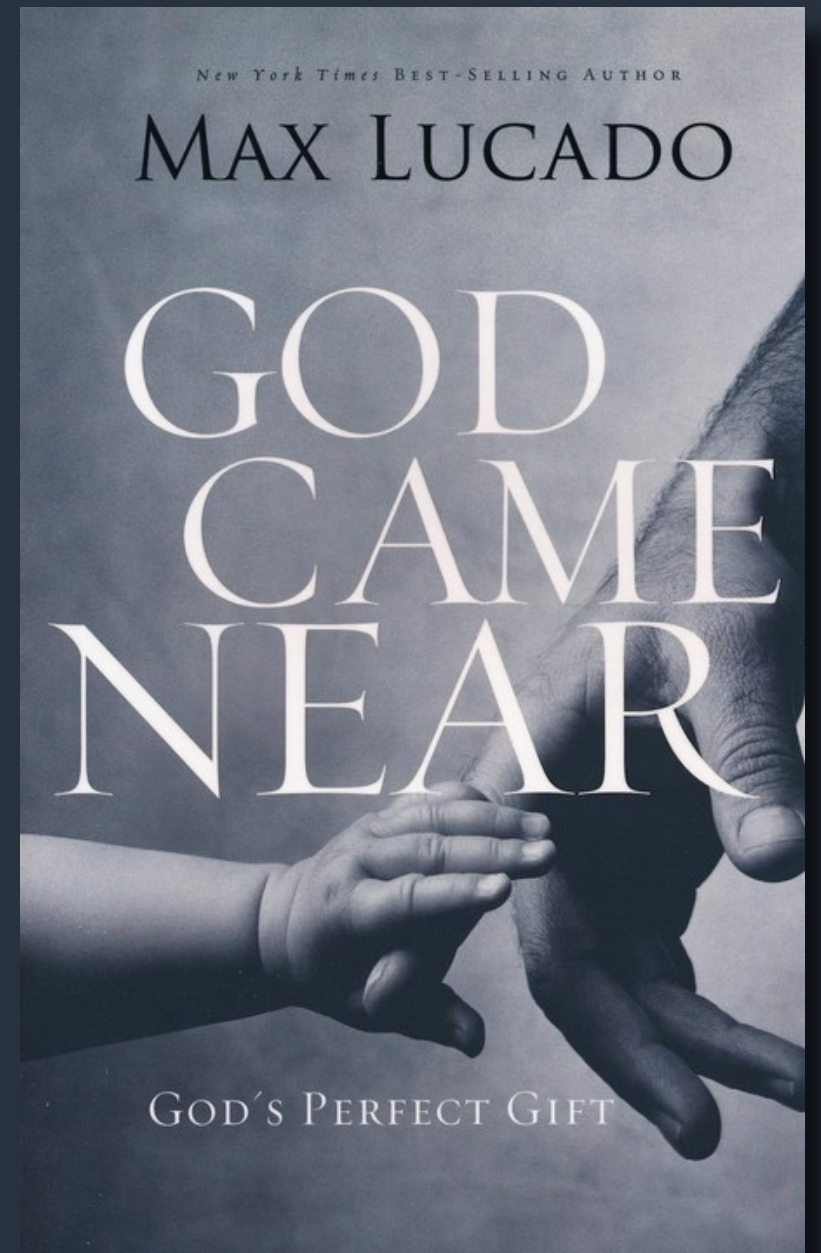


**John 1:1–4 (NLT)** — “In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. **2** He existed in the beginning with God. **3** God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. **4** The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone.”

**John 1:14 (NLT)** — “So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father’s one and only Son.”

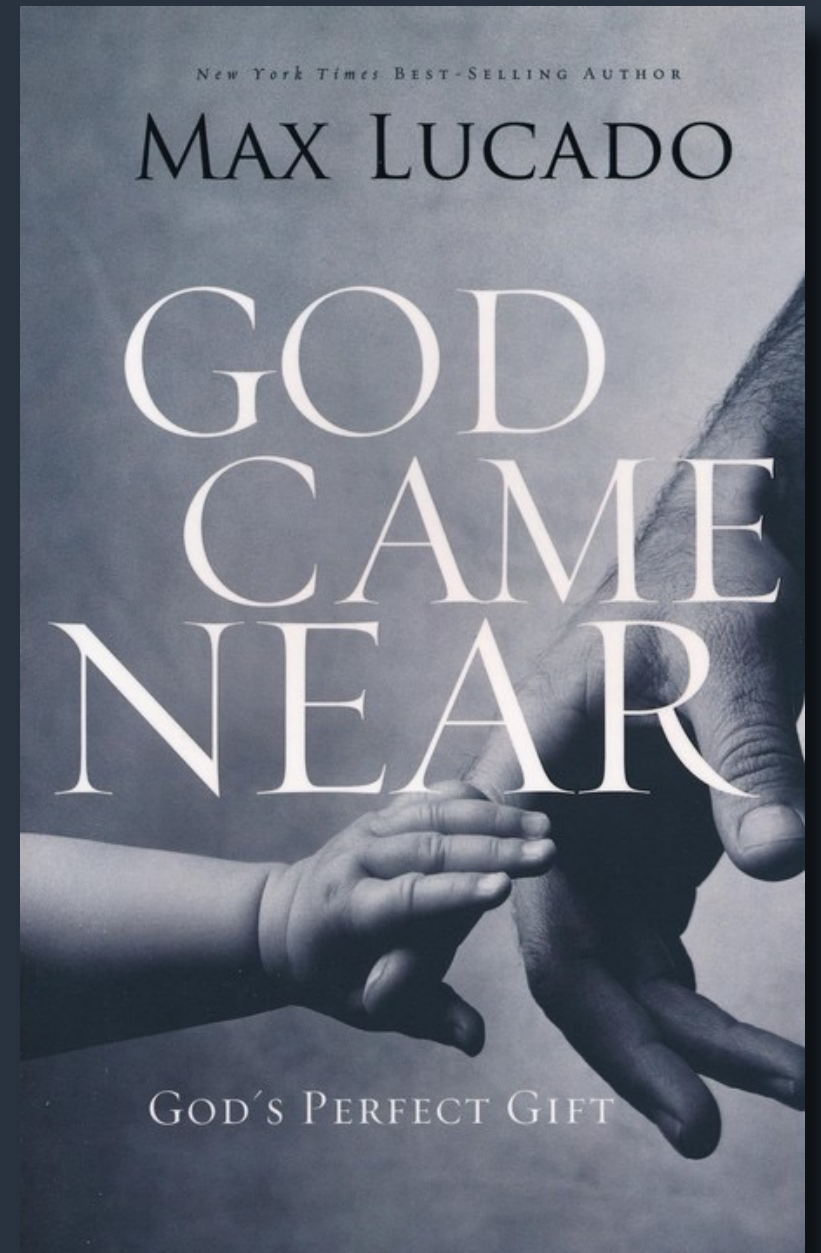
**Matthew 1:23 (NLT)** — “Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”

“It all happened in a moment, a most remarkable moment. As moments go, that one appeared no different than any other. If you could somehow pick it up off the timeline and examine it, it would look exactly like the ones that have passed while I have read these words. It came and went. It was preceded and succeeded by



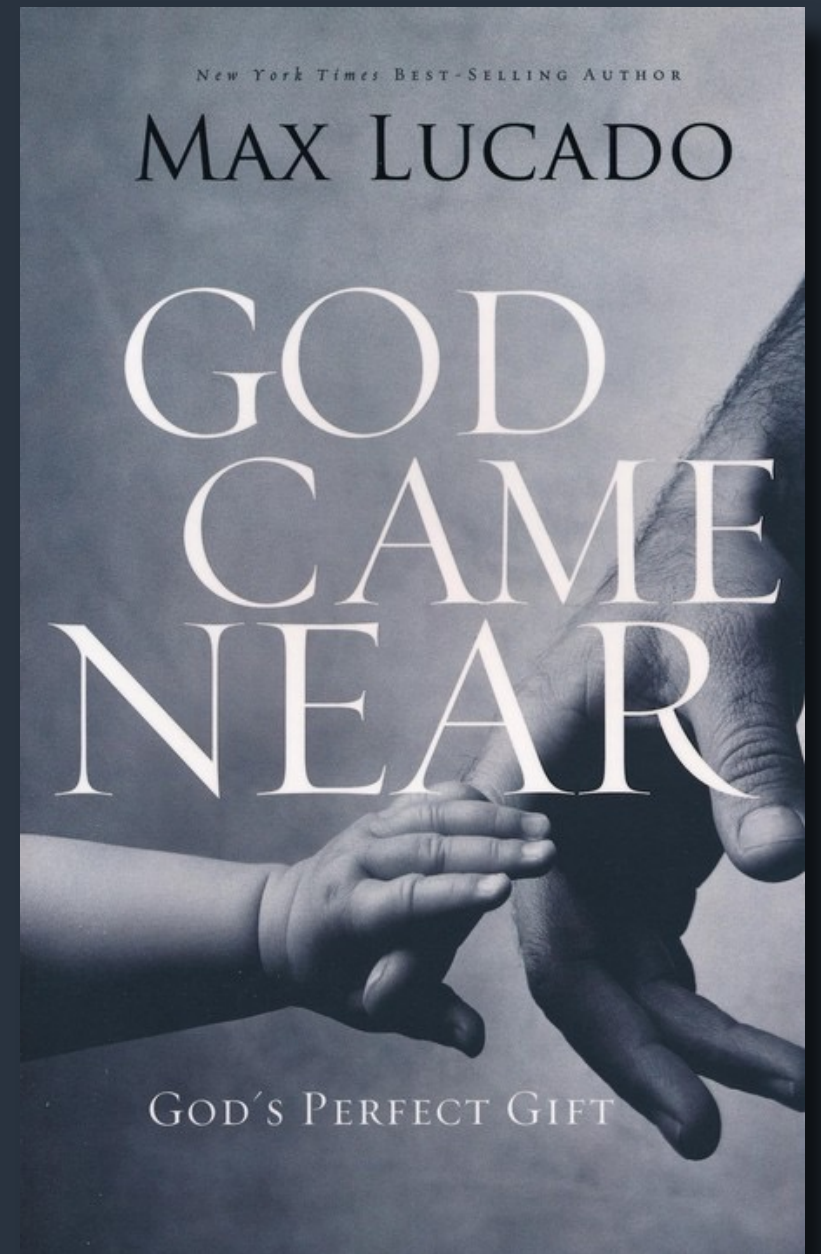
others just like it. It was one of the countless moments that have marked time since eternity became measurable.

But in reality, that particular moment was like none other. For through that segment of time a spectacular thing occurred. **God became a man.** While the creatures of earth walked



unaware, **Divinity arrived**. Heaven opened herself and placed her most precious one in a human womb.

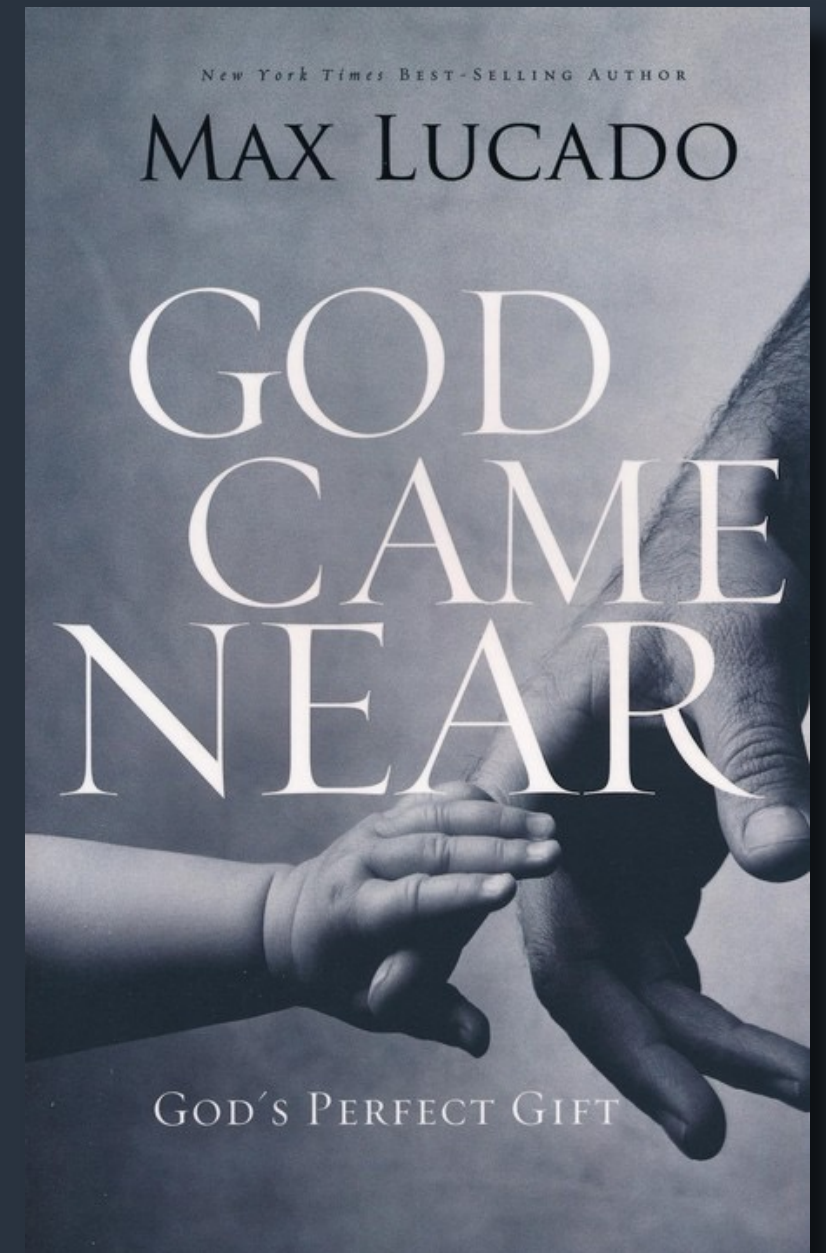
The omnipotent, in one instant, made Himself breakable. He who had been spirit became pierceable. He who was larger than the universe became an embryo. And He who sustains the



world with a word chose to be dependent upon the nourishment of a young *mother*.

God as a fetus. Holiness sleeping in a womb. The creator of life being created.

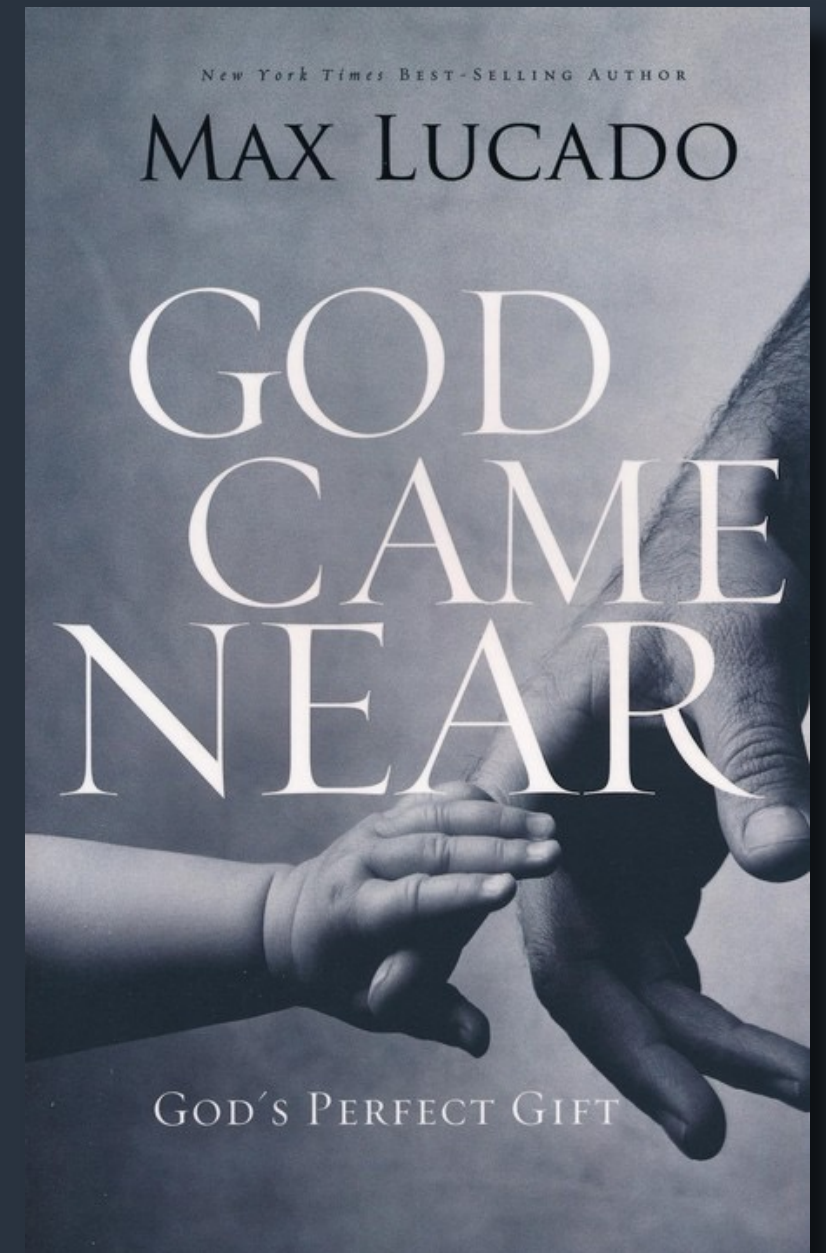
God was given eyebrows, elbows, two kidneys, and a spleen. He stretched against the walls, and



floated in the amniotic fluids of his mother.

## **God came near.**

He came, not as a flash of light or as an unapproachable conqueror, but as one whose first cries were heard by a peasant girl and a sleepy carpenter. The hands that first held him were unmanicured,

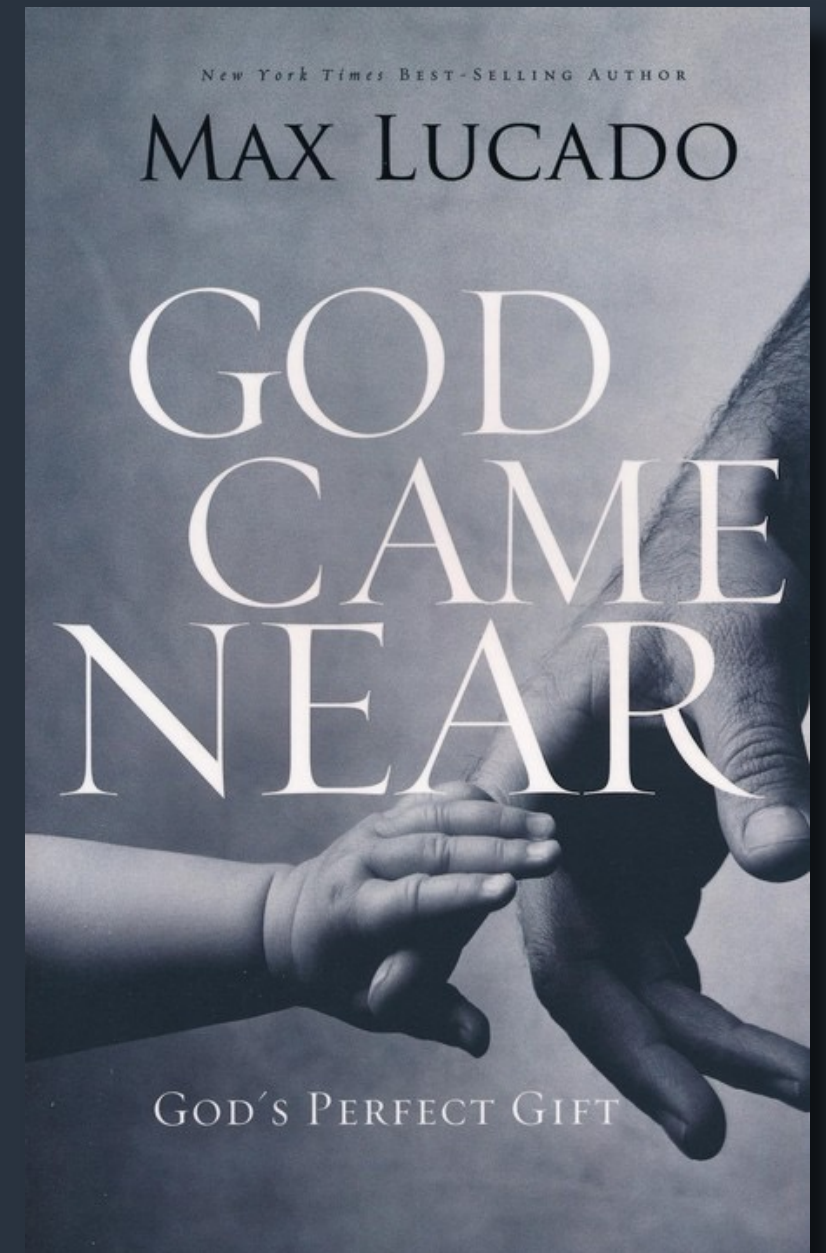




callused, and dirty.

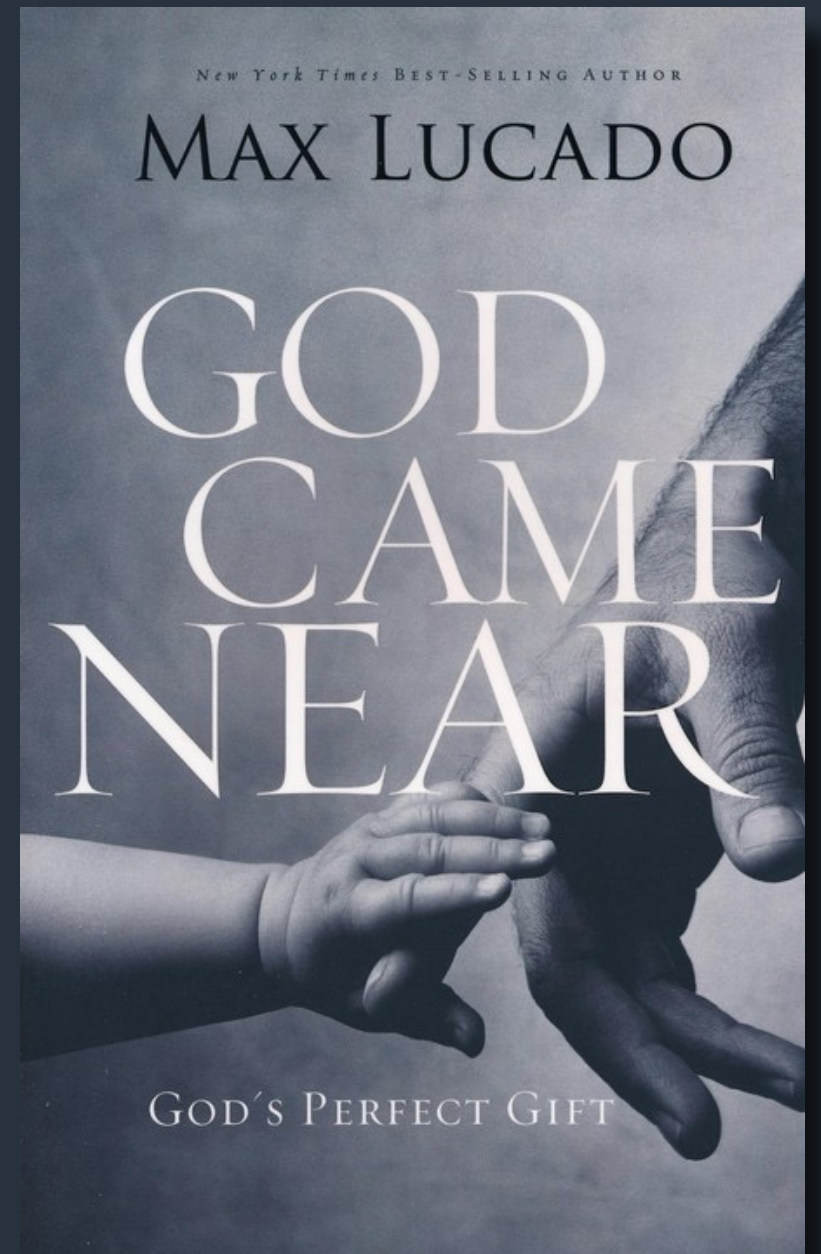
No silk. No ivory. No hype. No party. No hoopla.

Were it not for the shepherds, there would have been no reception. And were it not for a group of stargazers, there would have been no gifts.



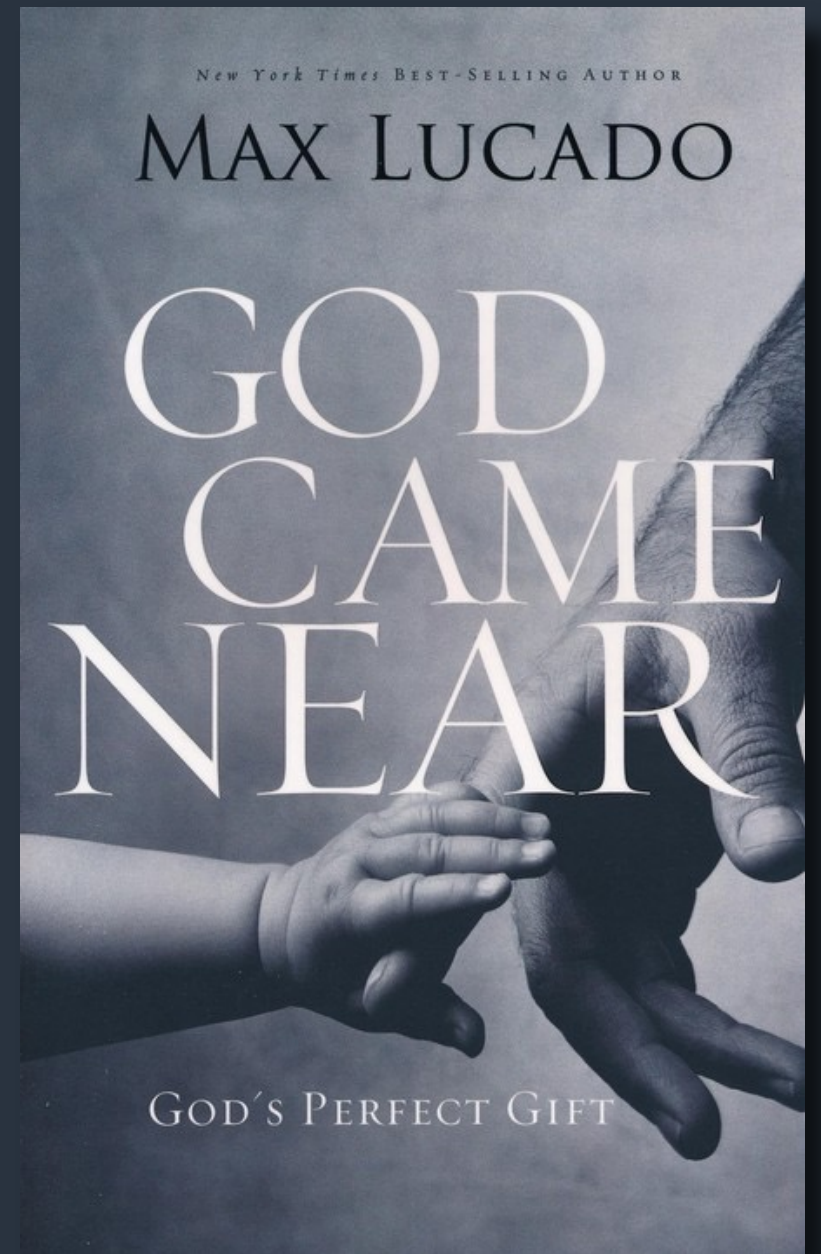
Angels watched as Mary changed God's diaper. The universe watched with wonder as the Almighty learned to walk. Children played in the street with him. And Had the synagogue leader in Nazareth known who was listening to His sermons...

Jesus may have had pimples. He



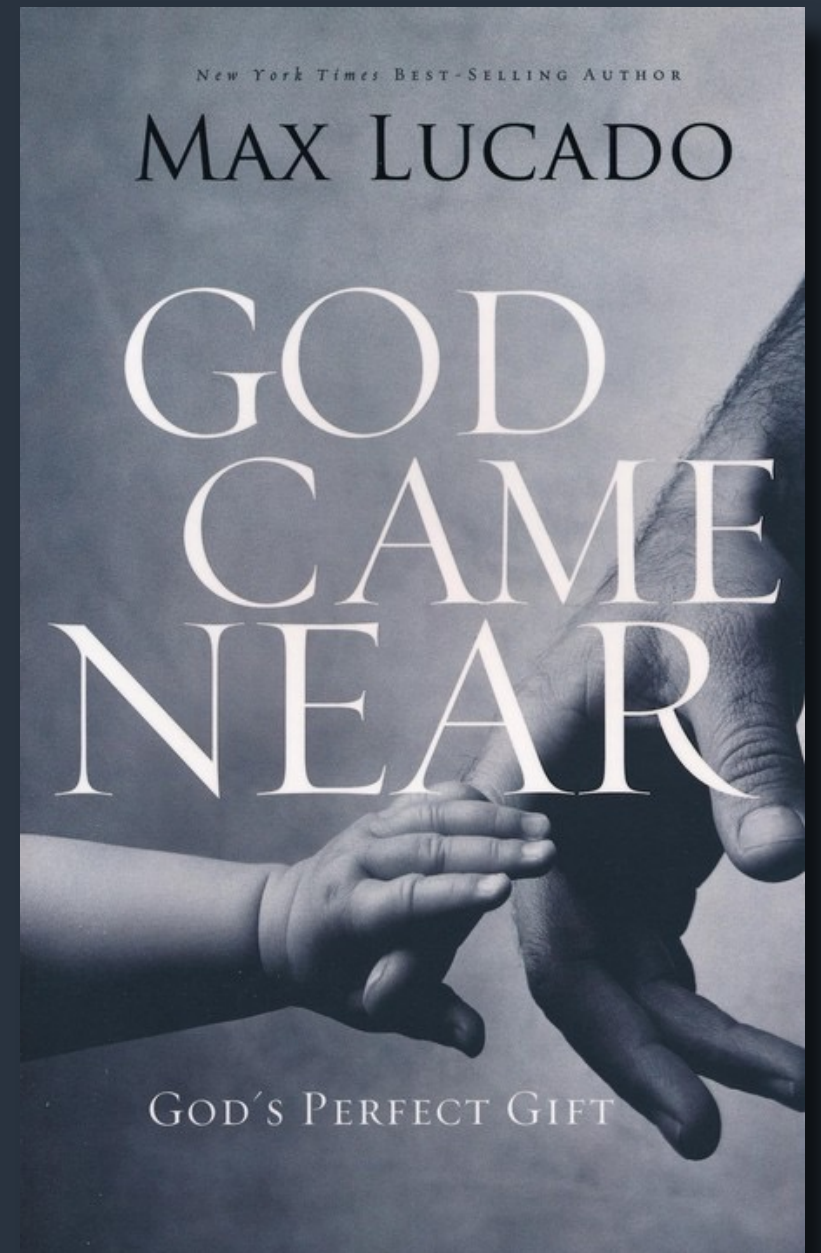
may have been tone-deaf. Perhaps a girl down the street had a crush on him or visa-versa. It could be that his knees were bony. One thing's for sure. **He was, while completely divine, completely human.**

For thirty-three years he would feel everything you and I have

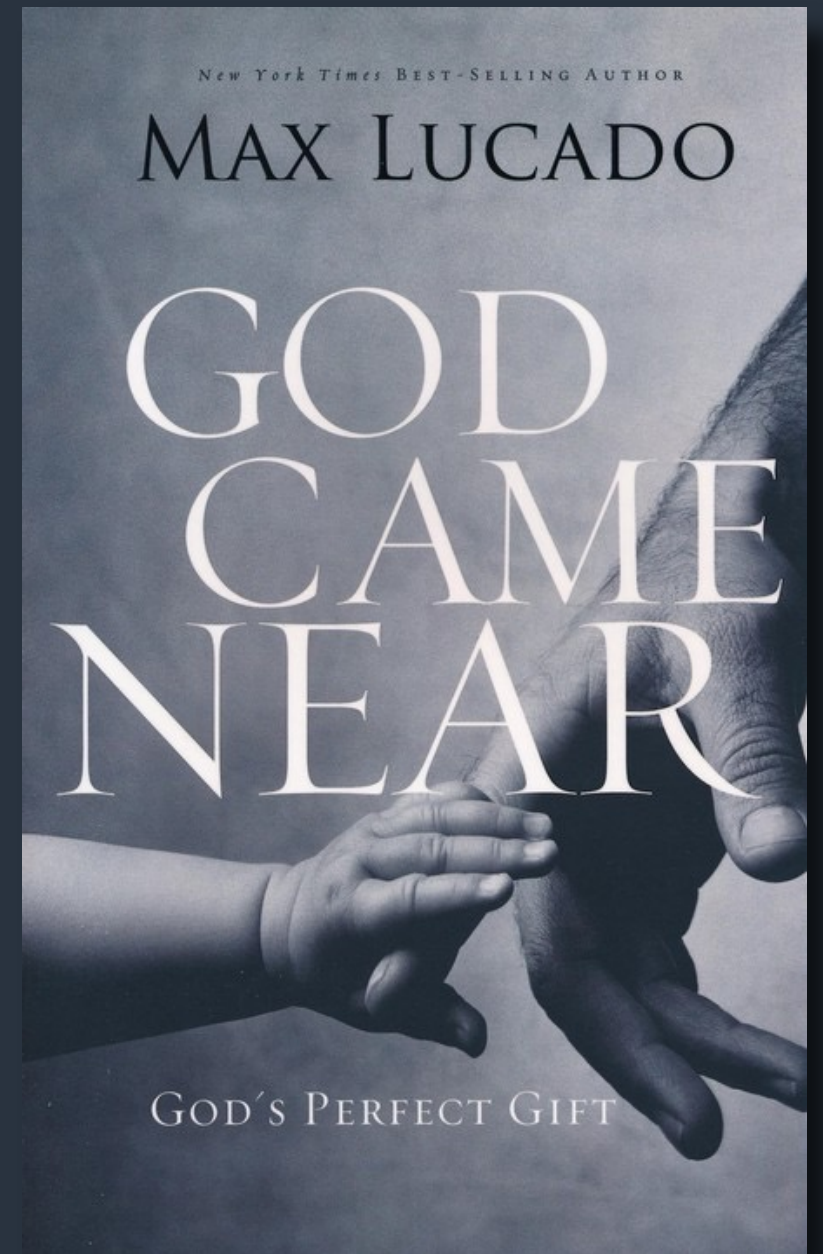


ever felt. He felt weak. He grew weary. He was afraid of failure. He was susceptible to wooing women. He got colds, burped, and had body odor. His feelings got hurt. His feet got tired. And His head ached.

To think of Jesus in such a light is – well, it seems almost irreverent,



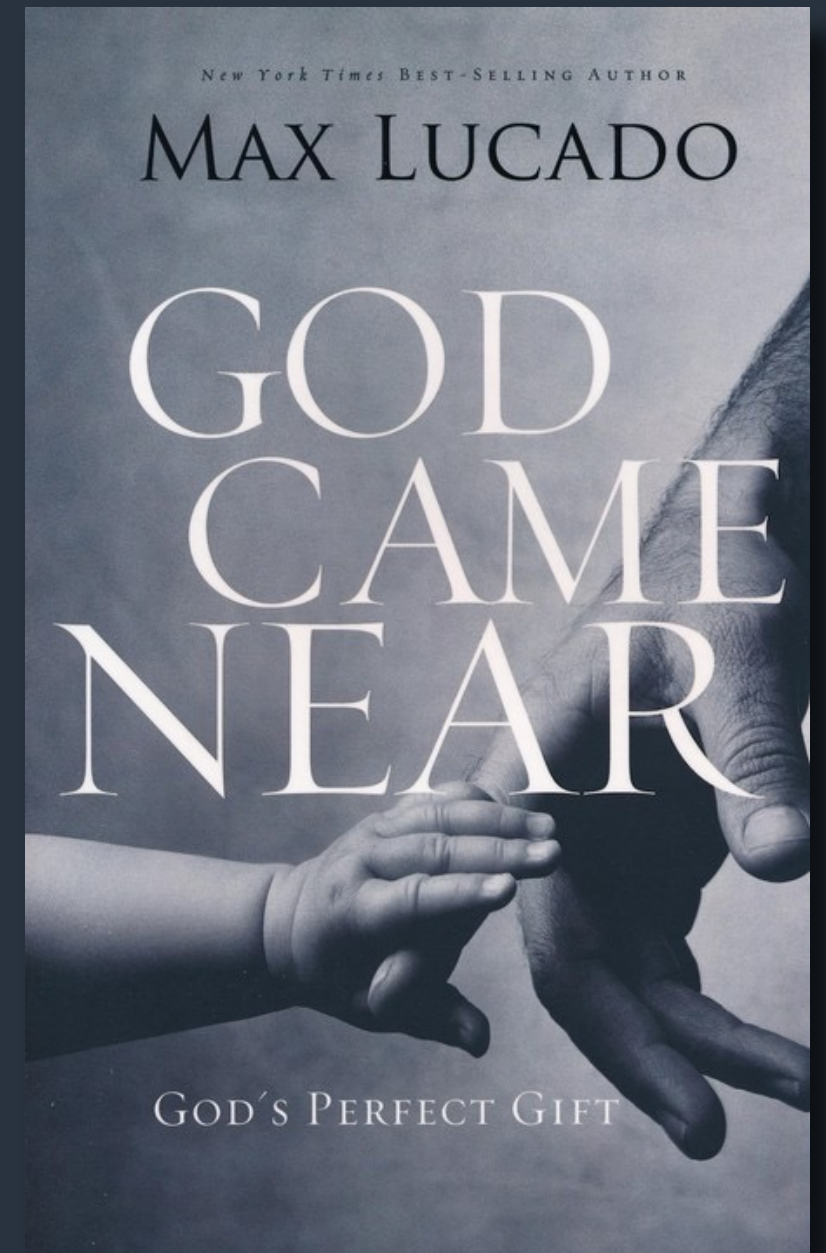
doesn't it? It is much easier to keep the humanity out of the incarnation. Clean the manure from around the manger. Wipe the sweat out of his eyes. Pretend he never snored or blew his nose or hit his thumb with a hammer. He is easier to stomach that way. There is something about keeping



Him divine that keeps him distant,  
packaged, predictable.

But don't do it. For heaven's sake,  
don't. Let him be as human as he  
intended to be. Let him into the  
mire and muck of our world. **For  
only if we let him in, can he pull  
us out... listen to Him.**

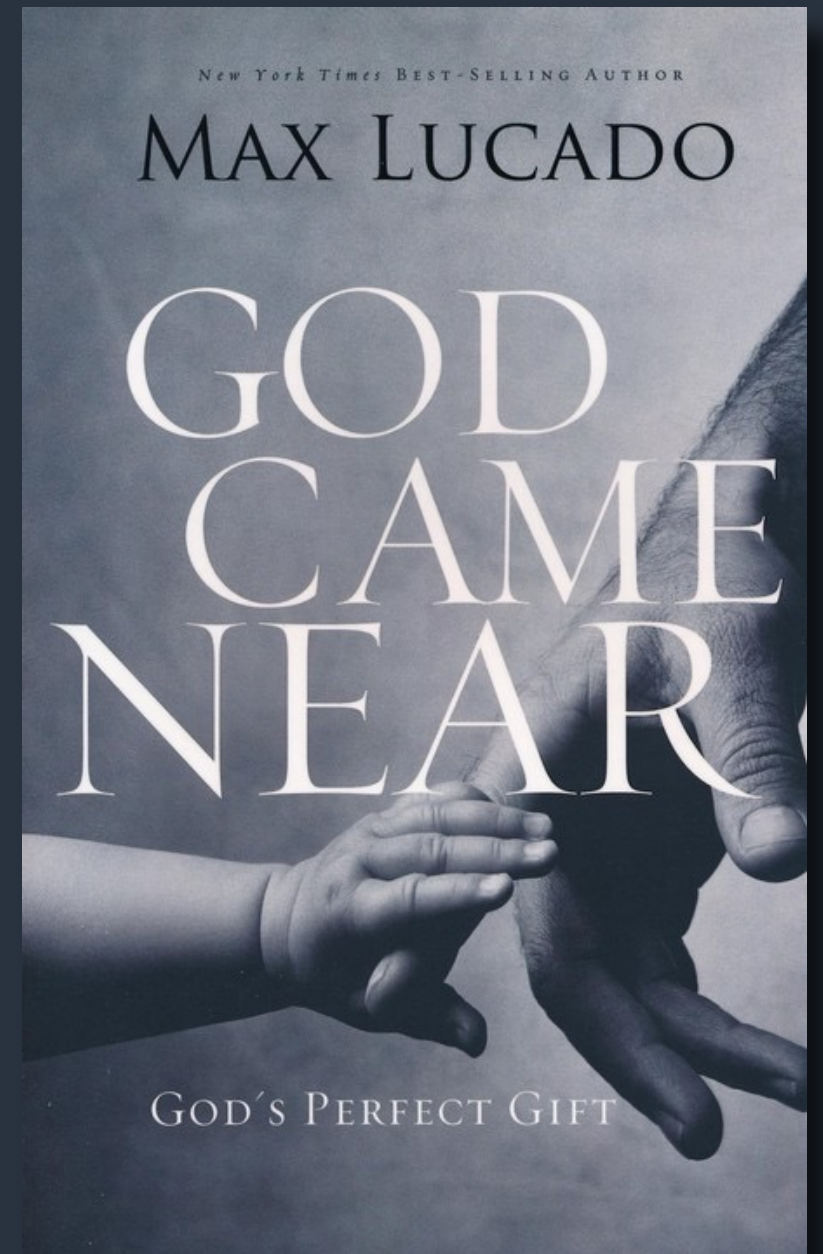
'Love your neighbor', was spoken



by a man whose neighbors tried to kill him.

The challenge to leave family for the gospel was issued by one who kissed his mother good-bye in the doorway.

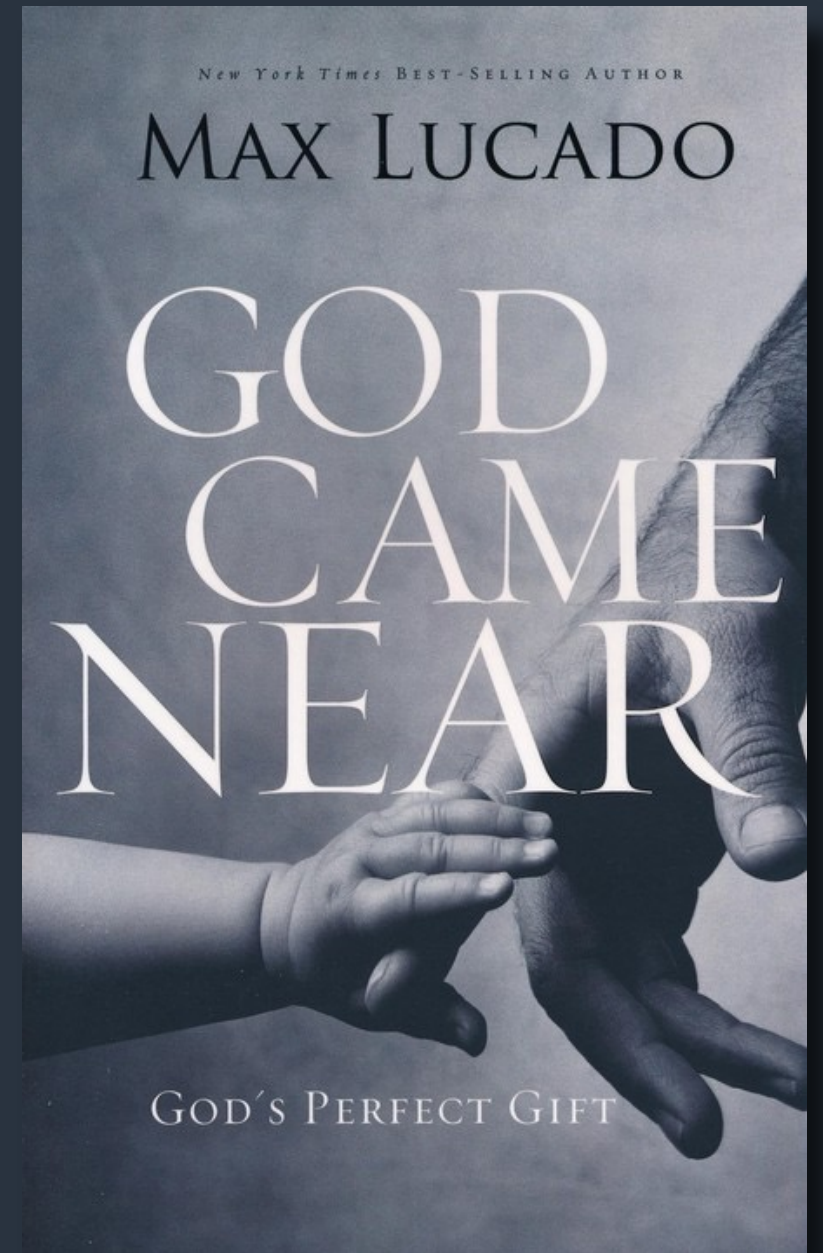
‘Pray for those who persecute you’ came from the lips that would soon be begging God to



forgive his murderers.

‘I am with you always’ are the words of a God who in one instant did the impossible to make it all possible for you and me.

It all happened in a moment. In one moment... a most remarkable moment. The word became flesh... and dwelt among us.”



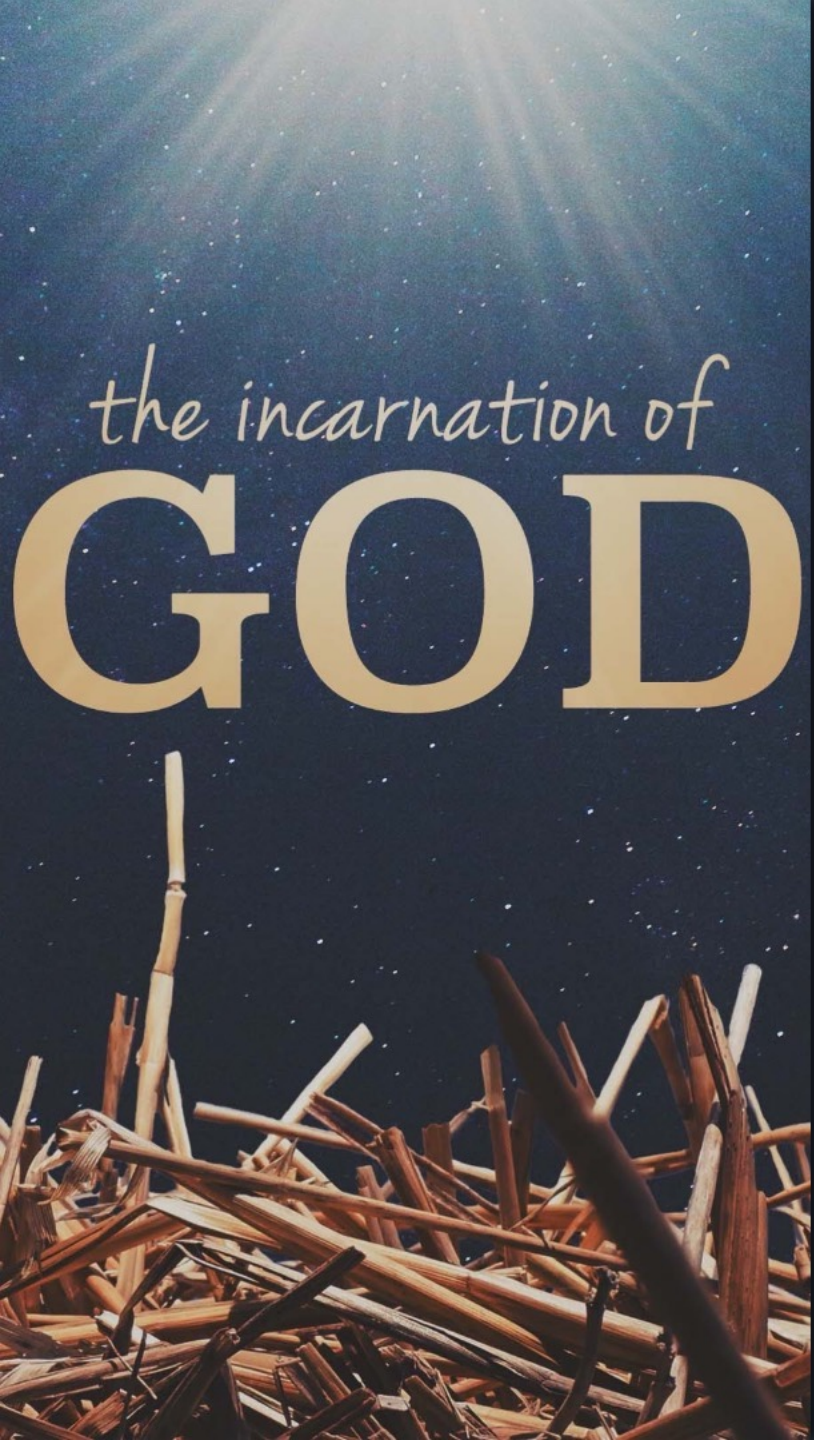




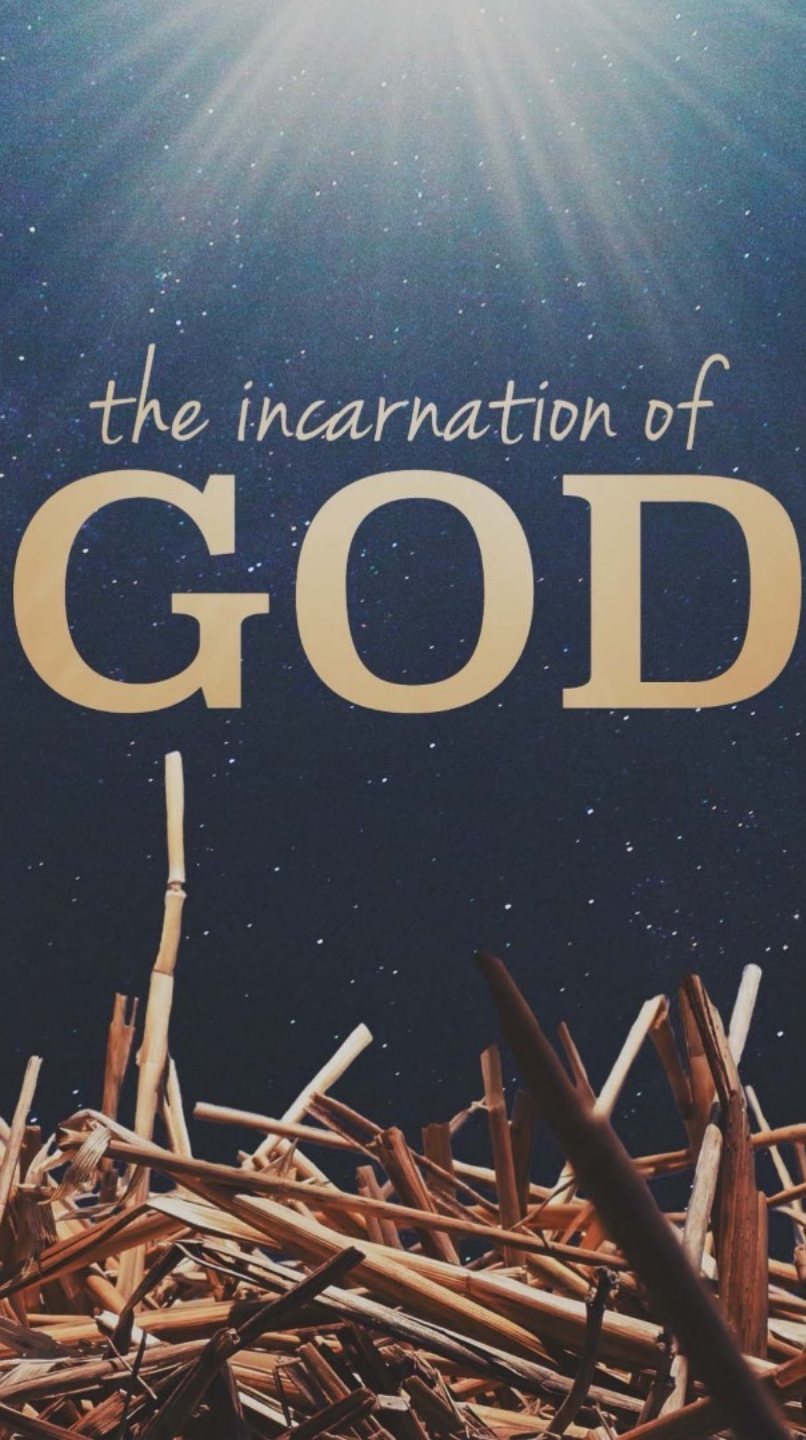
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**GOD**

**The God of the Universe Became a Man**



**WHY would God come in flesh?**



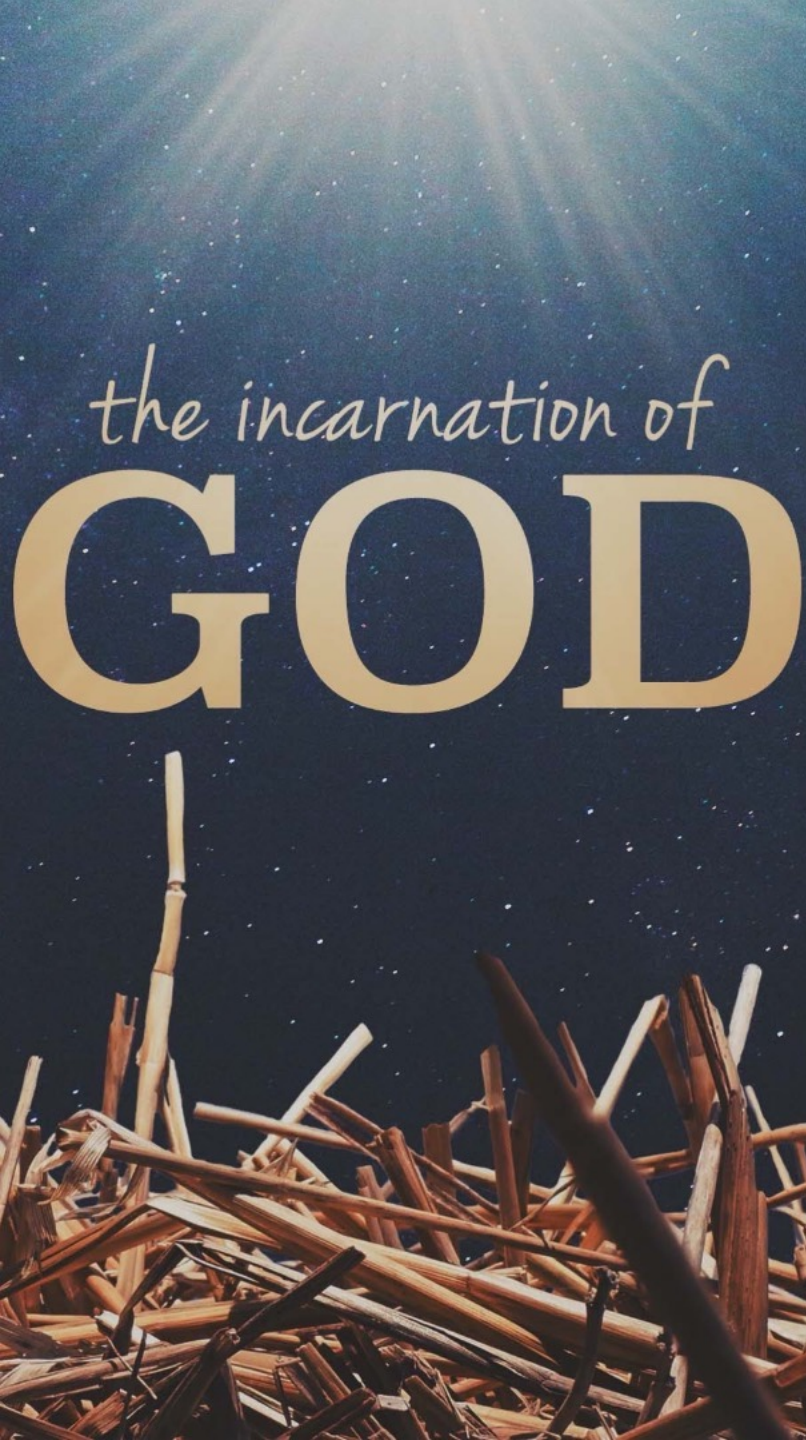
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**GOD**

**WHY would God come in flesh?**

**1. To reveal the Father to us.**

**John 4:24 (NLT)** — “For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.”

**John 1:18 (NLT)** — “No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father’s heart. He has revealed God to us.”

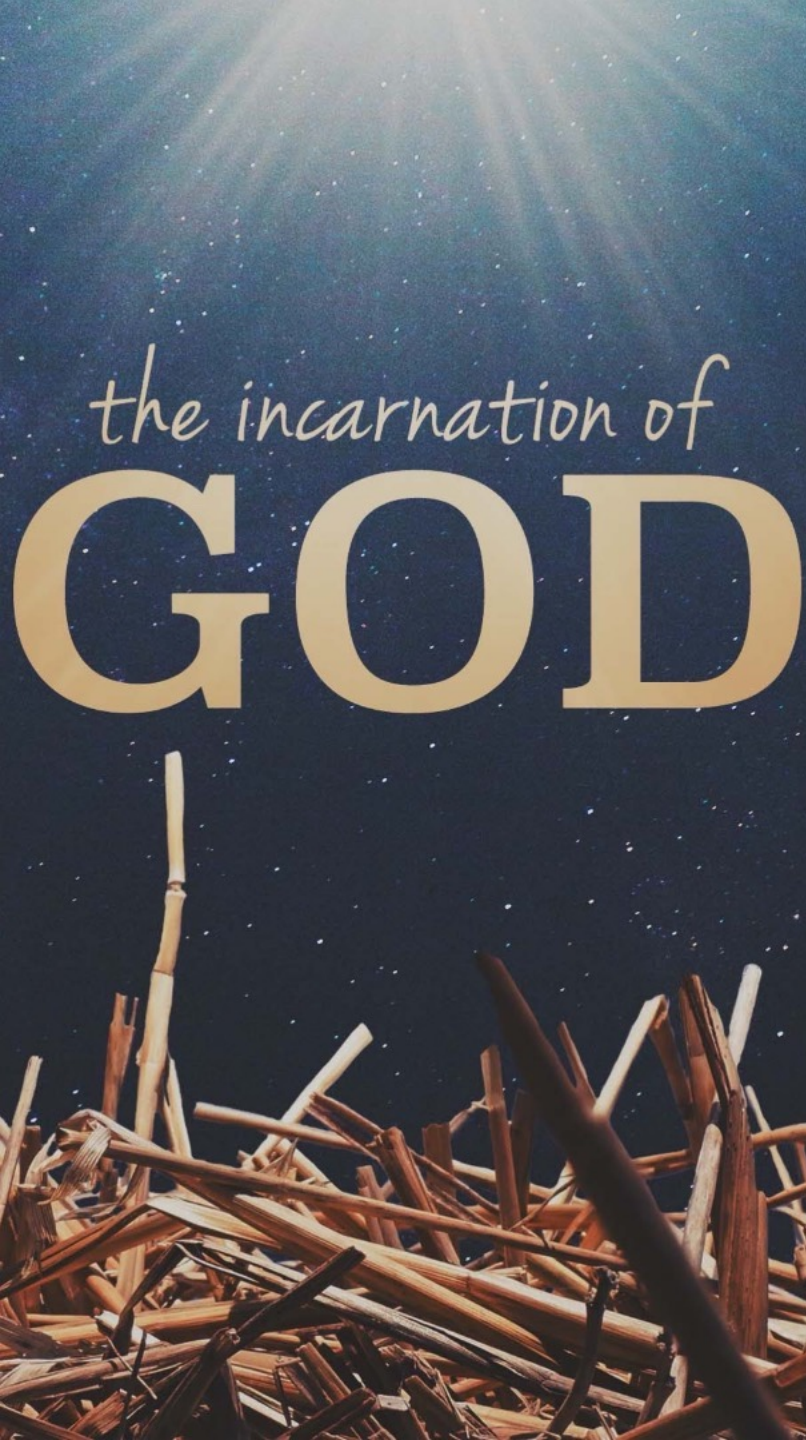


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**GOD**

# WHY would God come in flesh?

**1. To reveal the Father to us.**

- God is spirit

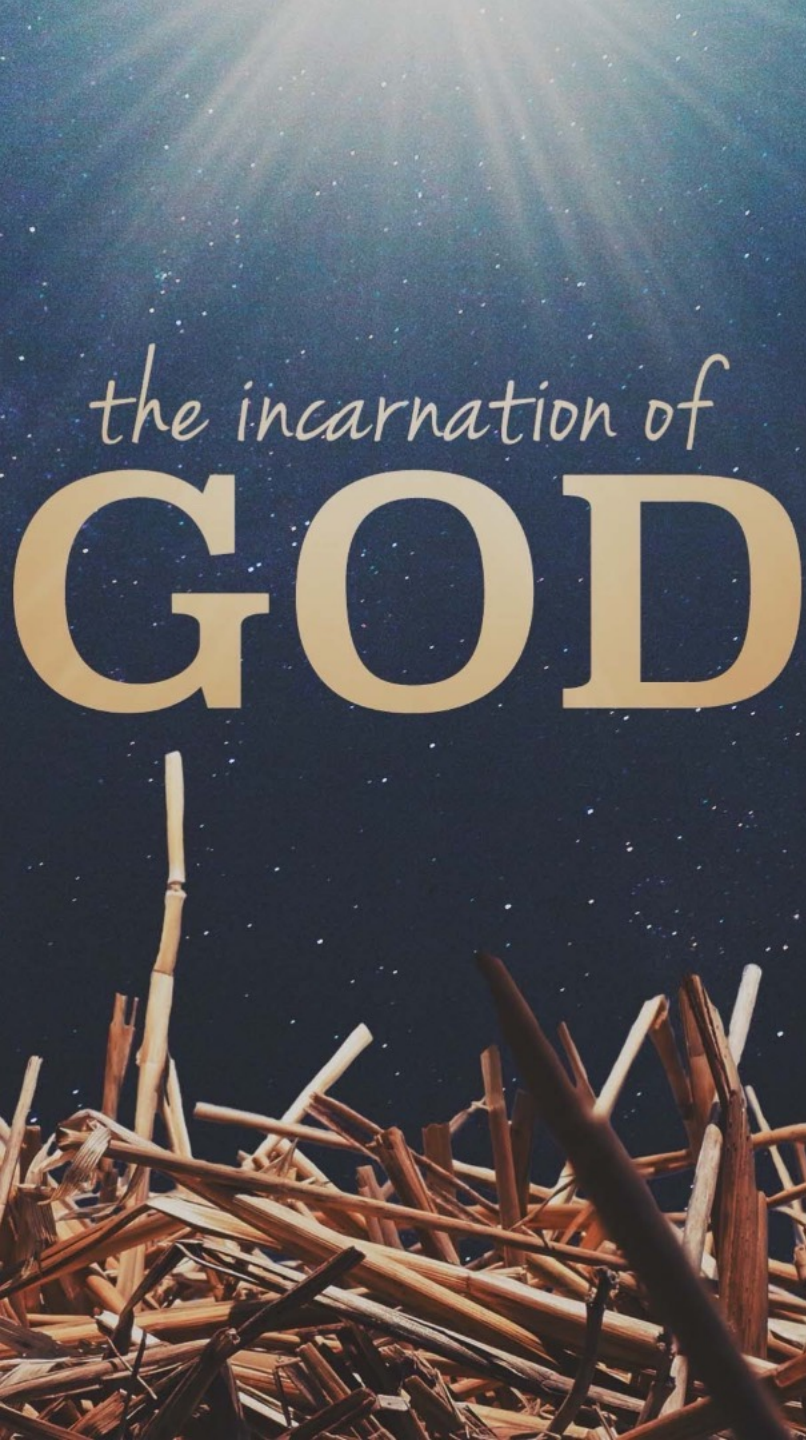


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**GOD**

# WHY would God come in flesh?

## 1. To reveal the Father to us.

- God is spirit
- Incarnation = in/carne



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**GOD**

## WHY would God come in flesh?

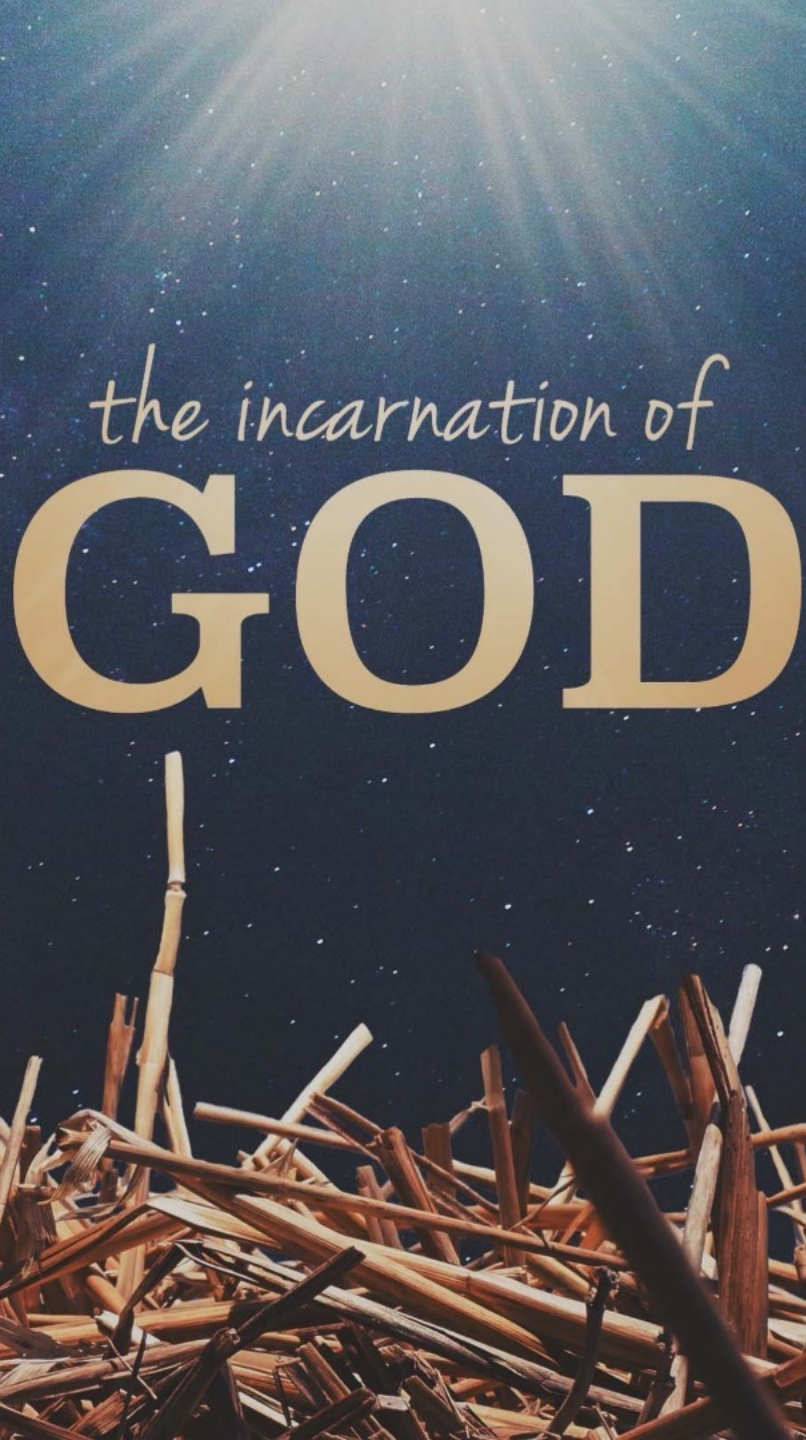
1. To reveal the Father to us.
- 2. To deal with our sin problem.**

**Hebrews 2:9 (NLT)** — “What we do see is Jesus, who for a little while was given a position ‘a little lower than the angels’; and because he suffered death for us, he is now ‘crowned with glory and honor.’ Yes, by God’s grace, Jesus tasted death for everyone.”



**Mark 10:45 (NLT)** — “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

**1 John 3:5 (NLT)** — “And you know that Jesus came to take away our sins, and there is no sin in him..”



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## WHY would God come in flesh?

1. To reveal the Father to us.

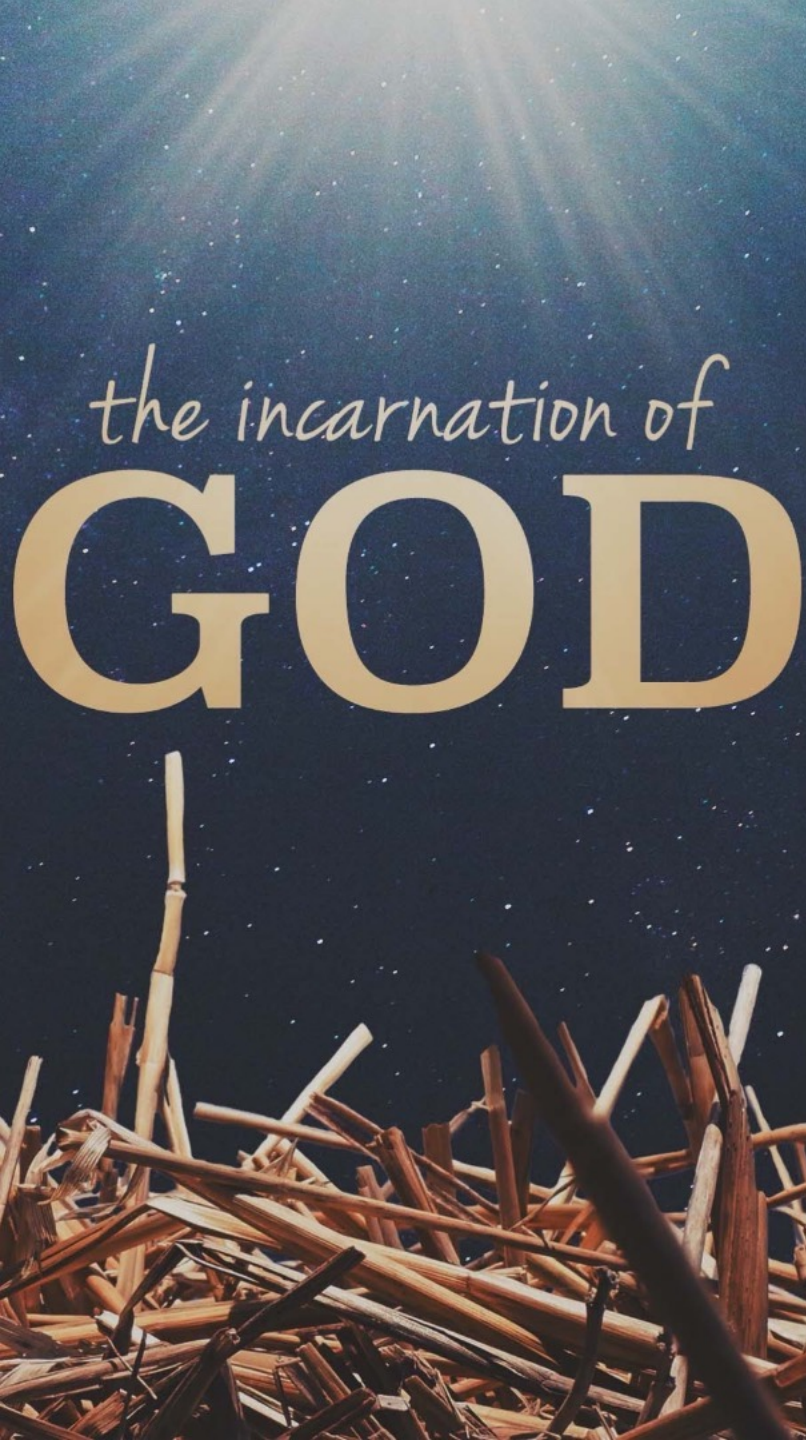
**2. To deal with our sin problem.**

- Man's greatest dilemma is sin.

**Romans 3:23 (NLT)** — “For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.”

**Romans 3:10–11 (NLT)** — “As the Scriptures say, “No one is righteous— not even one. **11** No one is truly wise; no one is seeking God.”

**Romans 6:23 (NLT)** — “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”



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## WHY would God come in flesh?

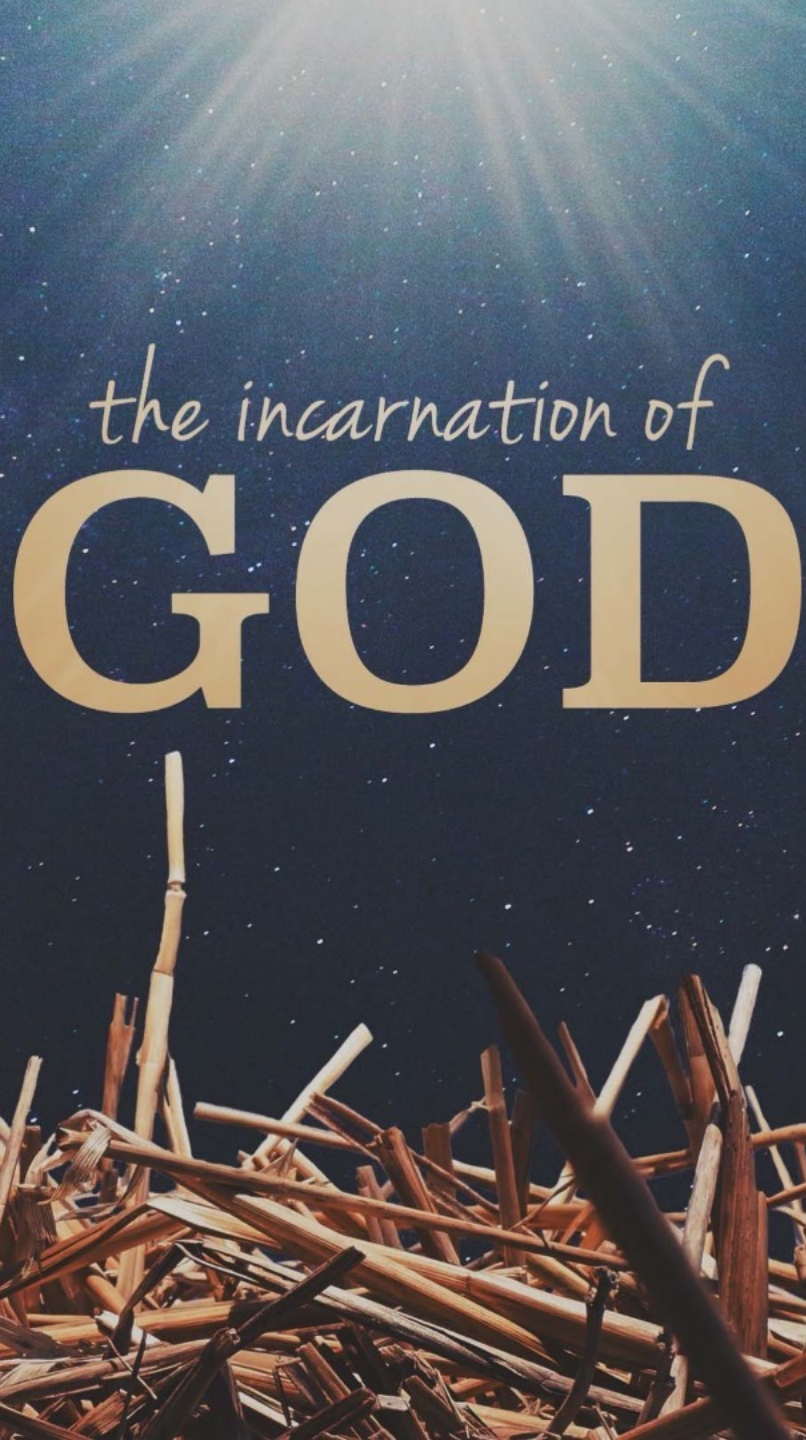
1. To reveal the Father to us.

**2. To deal with our sin problem.**

- Man's greatest dilemma is sin.
- There's no HUMAN remedy.

**Romans 5:8–10 (NLT)** — “But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. **9** And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. **10** For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son.”

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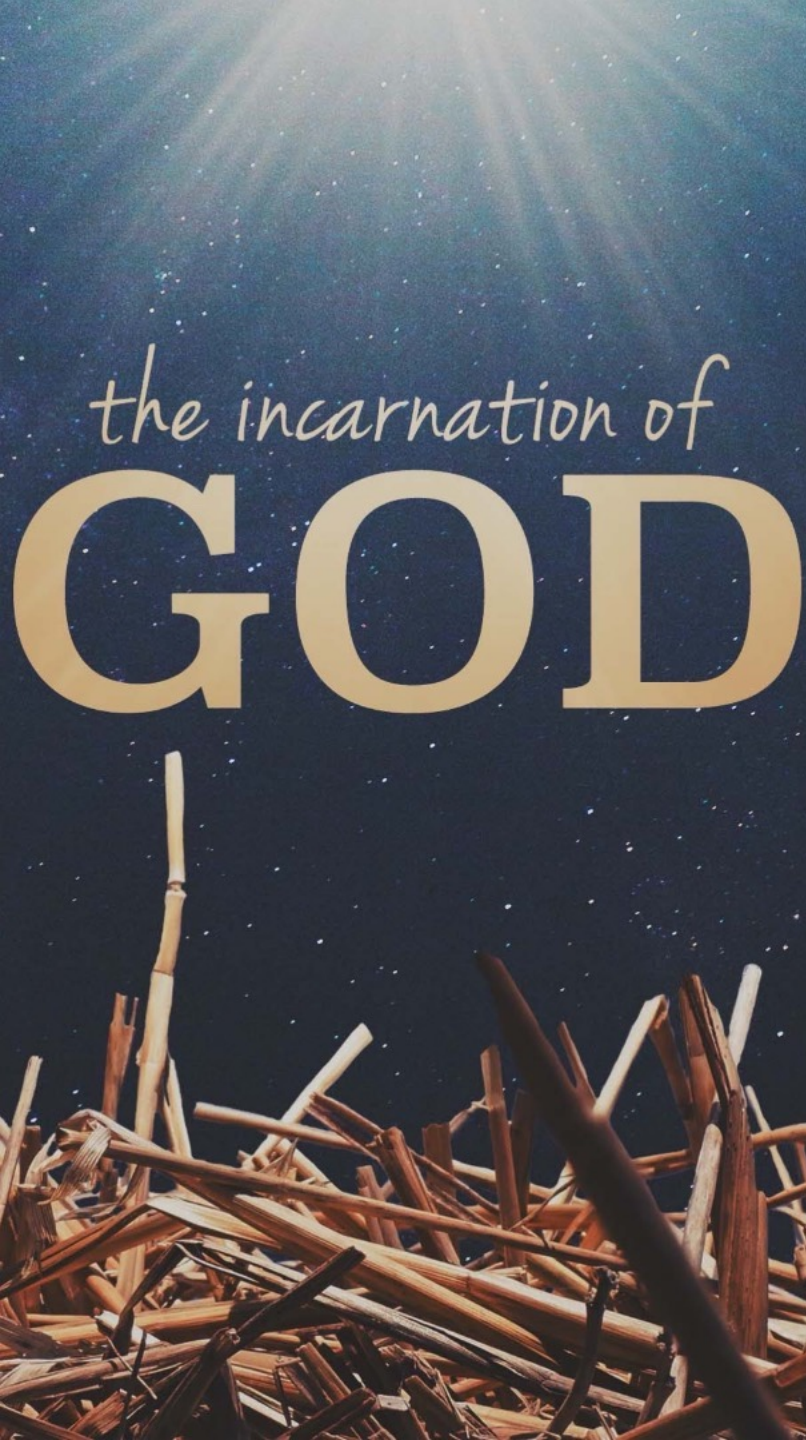
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## WHY would God come in flesh?

1. To reveal the Father to us.

**2. To deal with our sin problem.**

- Man's greatest dilemma is sin.
- There's no HUMAN remedy.
- The Word became FLESH to have ability to die for us!



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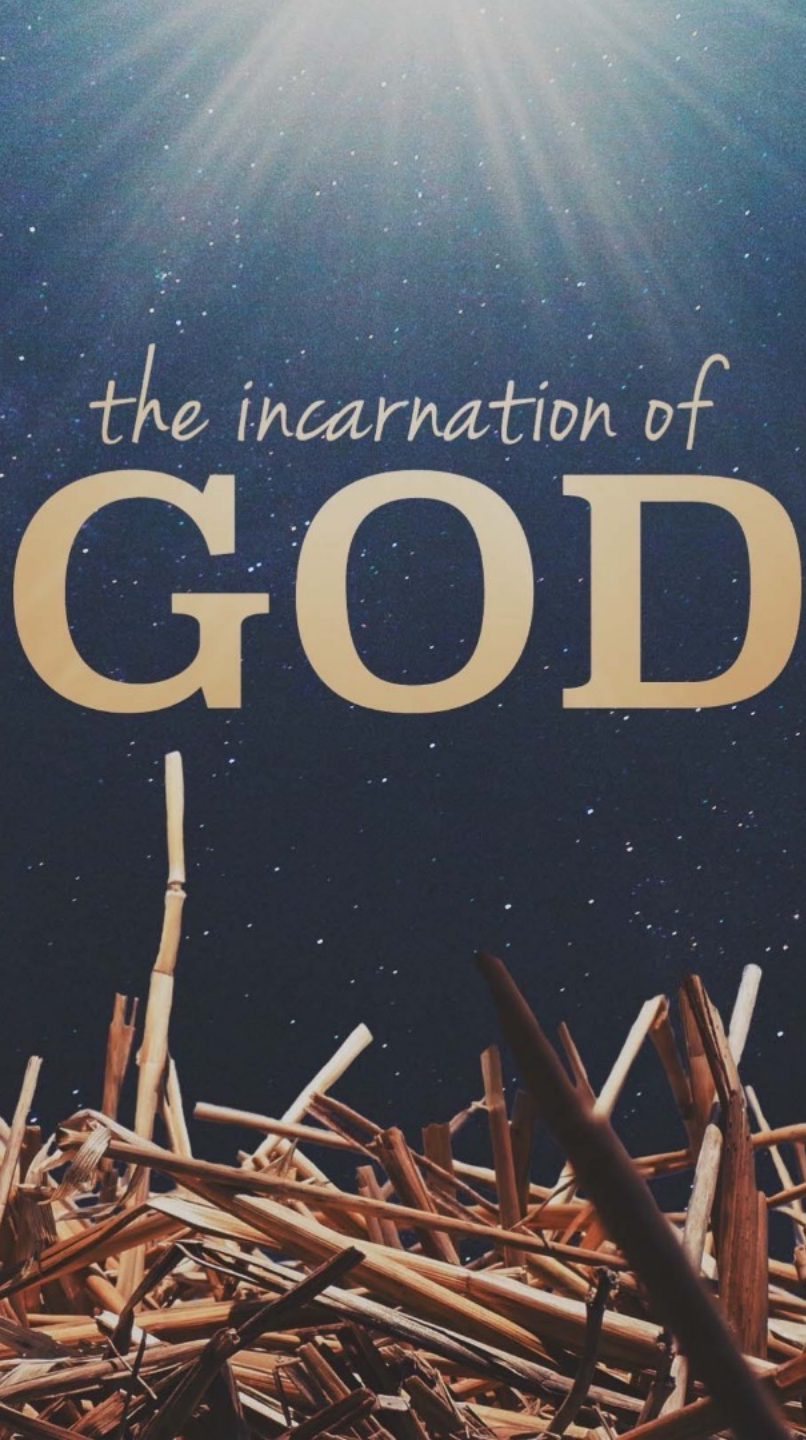
## WHY would God come in flesh?

1. To reveal the Father to us.
2. To deal with our sin problem.
- 3. To destroy the works of the devil.**



**1 John 3:8 (NLT)** — “But when people keep on sinning, it shows that they belong to the devil, who has been sinning since the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.”

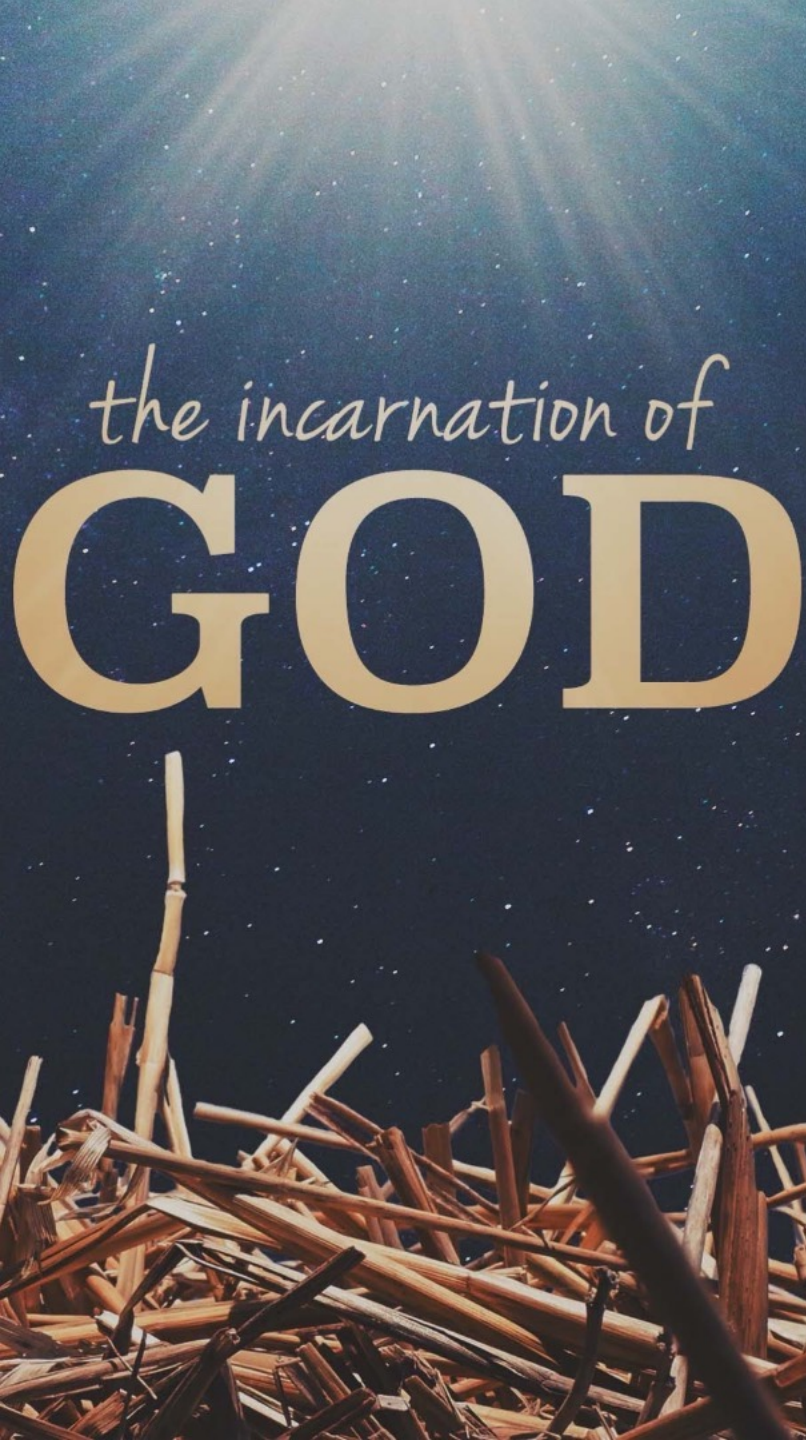
**Hebrews 2:14–15 (NLT)** — “Because God’s children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. **15** Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.”



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## WHY would God come in flesh?

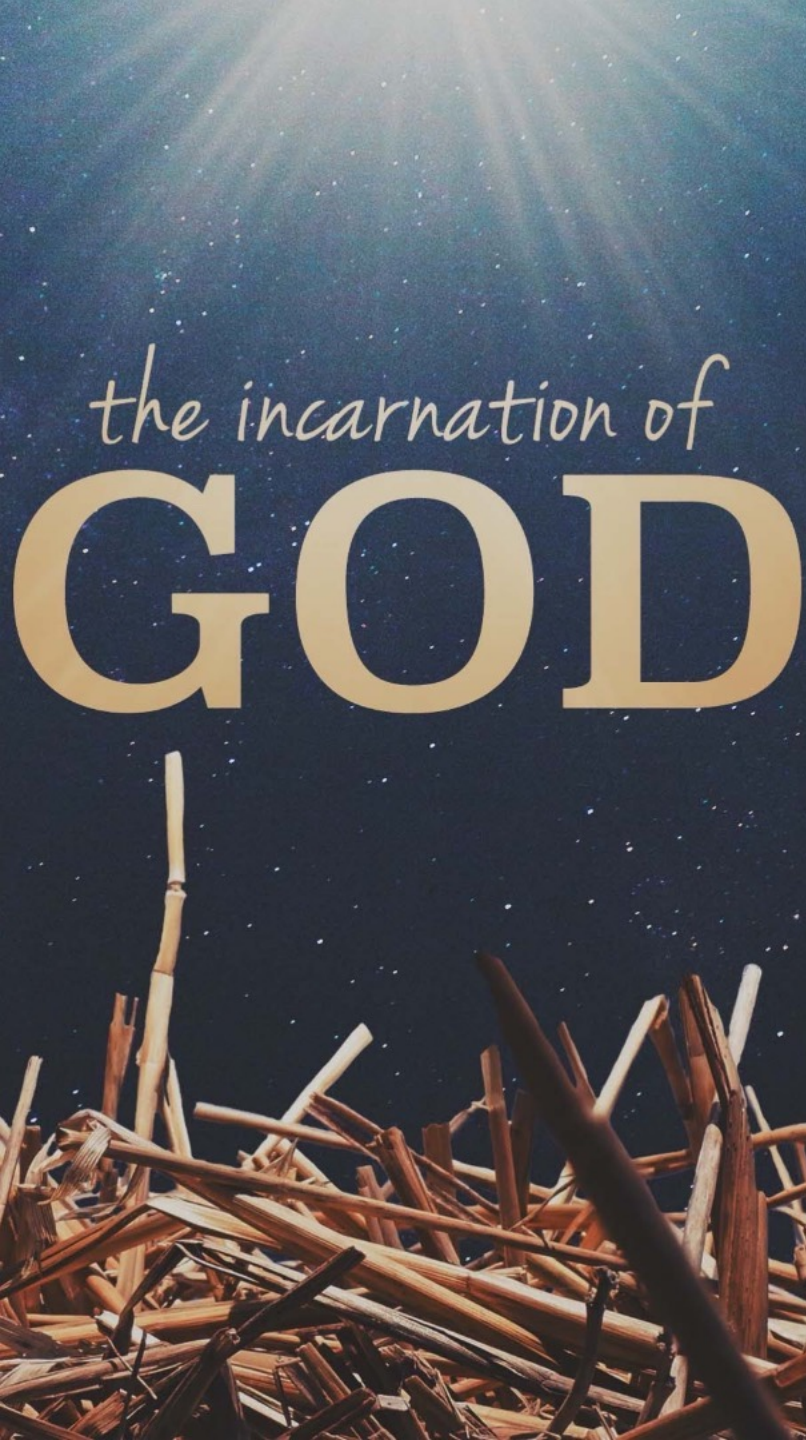
1. To reveal the Father to us.
2. To deal with our sin problem.
- 3. To destroy the works of the devil.**
  - destroy = render useless; to loose, to dissolve, sever, break, demolish



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# WHY would God come in flesh?

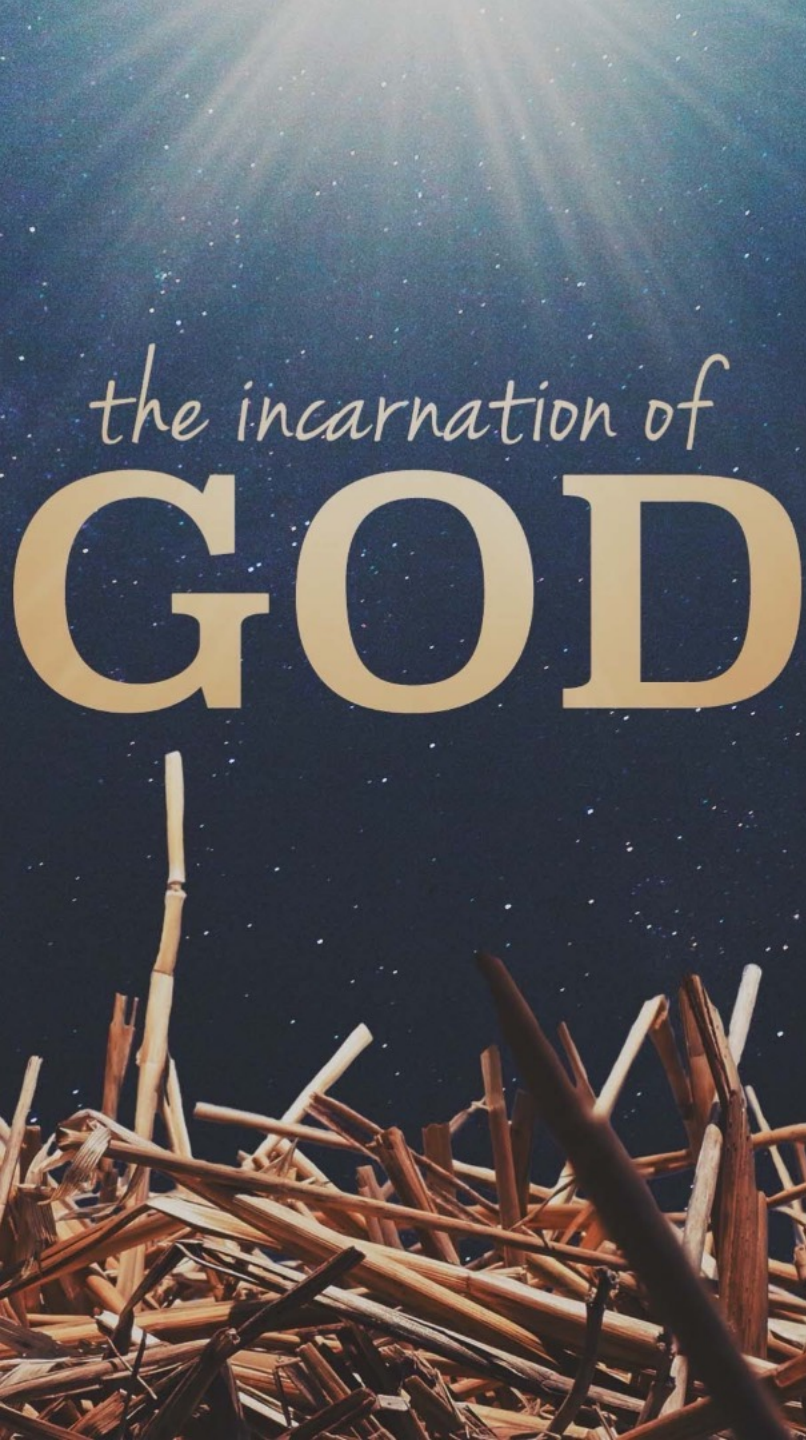
1. To reveal the Father to us.
2. To deal with our sin problem.
- 3. To destroy the works of the devil.**
  - Satan = adversary



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## WHY would God come in flesh?

1. To reveal the Father to us.
2. To deal with our sin problem.
- 3. To destroy the works of the devil.**
  - Satan = adversary
  - Devil = slandered and accuser

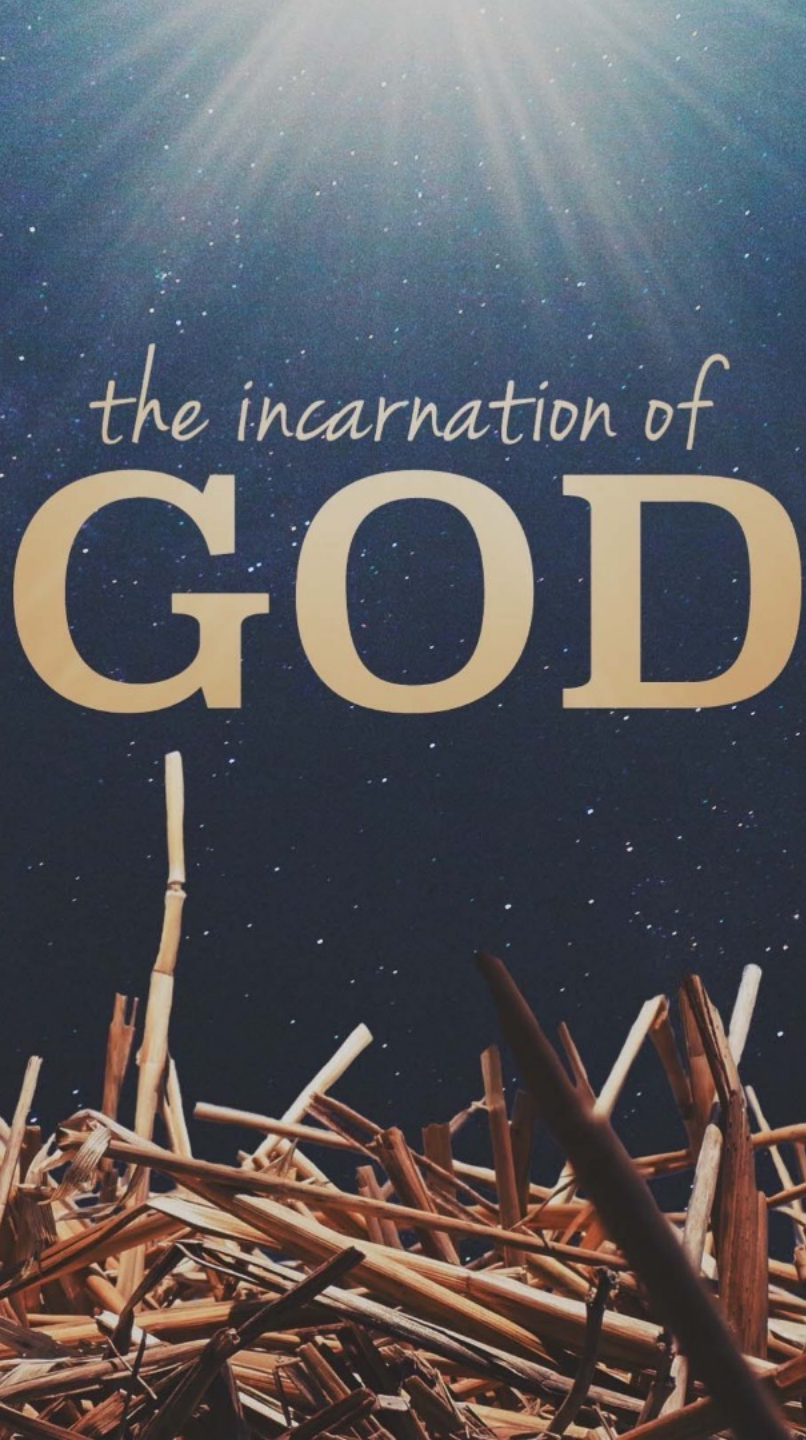


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## WHY would God come in flesh?

1. To reveal the Father to us.
2. To deal with our sin problem.
- 3. To destroy the works of the devil.**
  - Satan = adversary
  - Devil = slandered and accuser
  - Tempter = tries to lure into sin

**Romans 6:17–18 (NLT)** — “Thank God! Once you were slaves of sin, but now you wholeheartedly obey this teaching we have given you. **18** Now you are free from your slavery to sin, and you have become slaves to righteous living.”



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## WHY would God come in flesh?

1. To reveal the Father to us.
2. To deal with our sin problem.
3. To destroy the works of the devil.
- 4. To discharge the duties of a faithful high priest.**



**Hebrews 2:17–18 (NLT)** — “Therefore, it was necessary for him to be made in every respect like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he could be our merciful and faithful High Priest before God. Then he could offer a sacrifice that would take away the sins of the people. **18** Since he himself has gone through suffering and testing, he is able to help us when we are being tested.”

**Hebrews 4:15–16 (NLT)** — “This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin. **16** So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most.”

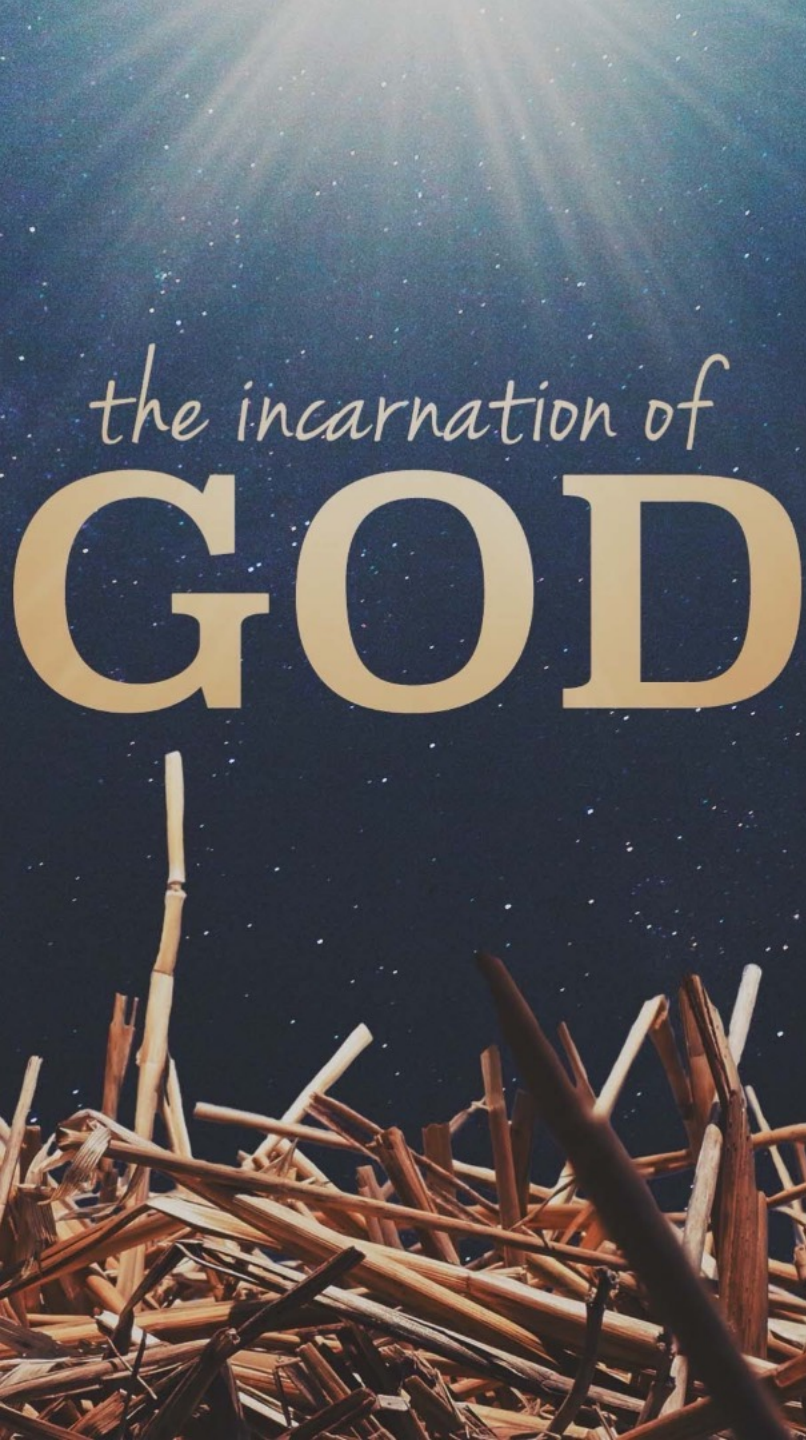
A person is sitting on the ground, their legs tucked up and held together. They are wearing light-colored leggings and are barefoot. The background is a soft, out-of-focus bokeh of light and dark spots, suggesting an outdoor setting. The overall mood is contemplative and somewhat melancholic.

Nobody  
Understands What  
I'm Going Through

**Jesus took  
on flesh...**



**Hebrews 7:25 (NLT)** — “Therefore he is able, once and forever, to save those who come to God through him. He lives forever to intercede with God on their behalf.”



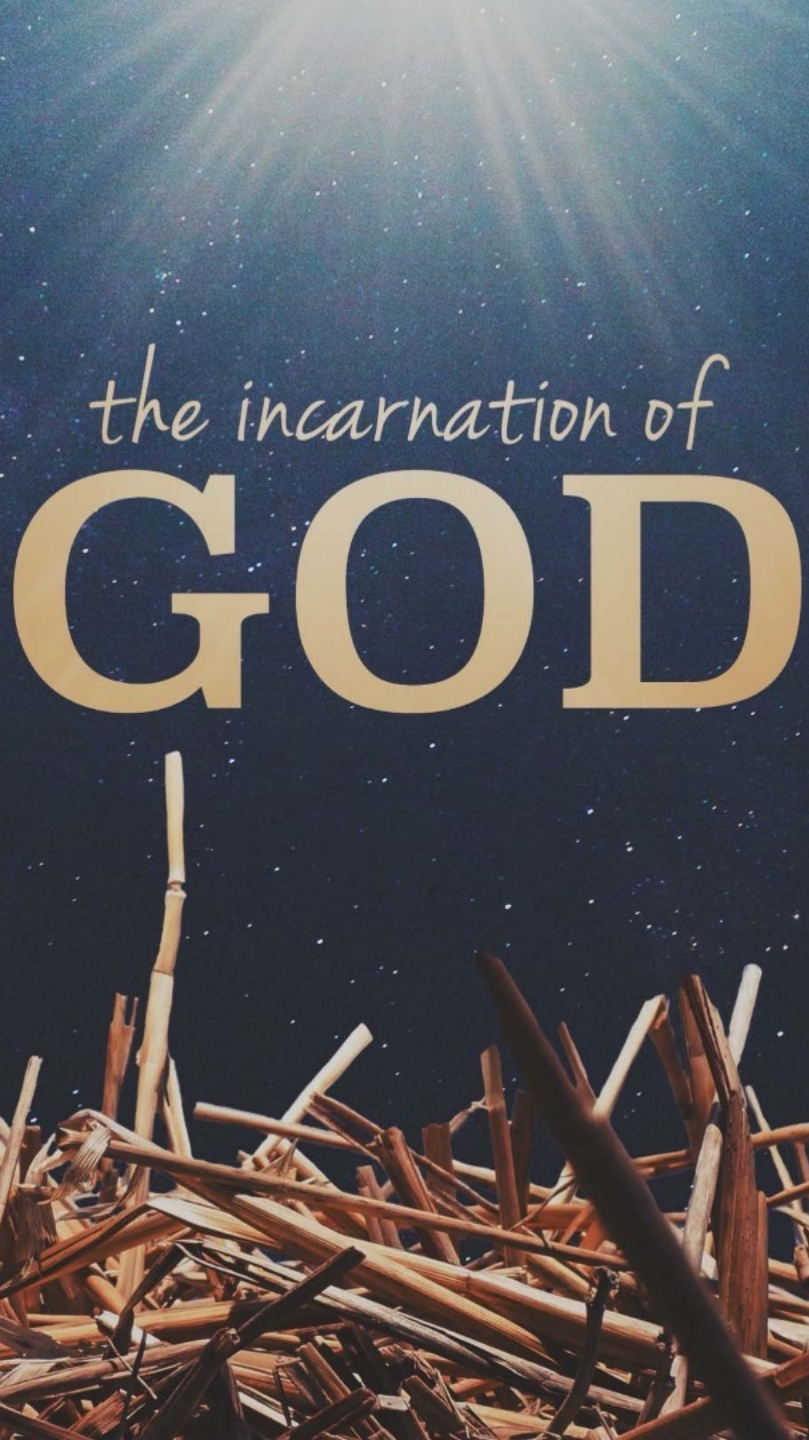
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1. To reveal the Father to us.
2. To deal with our sin problem.
3. To destroy the works of the devil.
4. To discharge the duties of a faithful high priest.
- 5. To delineate holy living.**

**1 Peter 2:21 (NLT)** — “For God called you to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for you. He is your example, and you must follow in his steps.”

**1 John 2:6 (NLT)** — “Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did.”



# delineate

- to portray by drawing





**When you look at the picture of Jesus' life,  
THAT is what holy living looks like...**

**John 1:14 (NLT)** — “So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father’s one and only Son.”



**Though He came 2,000 years ago, Jesus is  
very near today...**

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