

## Christmas – The Impossible Became Reality

One of the greatest promises of the Bible was given to a frightened young woman. *“For nothing is impossible with God”* (Luke: 1:37). It reminds me of a bumper sticker I once saw, *“The difficult we do today. The impossible will take a little longer.”* The announcement of Christmas is, in the fullness of time, *“the impossible has become reality.”*

This was the angel’s announcement to Mary. *“The angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God... For nothing is impossible with God’ ”* (Luke 1:35, 37).

The angel’s announcement was about the Incarnation of God. John, in his gospel, declared this truth. *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made...The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth... No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father’s side, has made him known”* (John 1:1-3, 14, 18).

The Apostle Paul proclaimed that all of human history led to this glorious birth in Bethlehem. *“But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law.... And he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, to be put into effect when the times will have reached their fulfillment...”* (Gal. 4:4; Eph. 1:9-10).

The poet described the angelic announcement to Mary as *“Immensity cloistered in Thy dear womb.”* This is God’s glorious impossible reality recorded in history, seen with human eyes and touched with human hands. *“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us”* (1 John 1:1-2).

The eternal Son of God, who from all eternity knew no spatial boundaries, not only entered into time and space, but also chose to reside in the shocking confines of a mother’s womb, a baby’s skin, and the restraints of a human body. The impossible became reality.

Christmas declares that the One who created all things, who is before all things, and in whom all things hold together was born. Philip Yancey in his book, *“The Jesus I Never Knew”* captures the mystery of the Incarnation. The eternal One chose *“to shrink so small as to become an ovum, a single fertilized egg barely visible to the human eye; an egg that would divide and re-divide until a fetus took shape, enlarging cell by cell inside the womb of a confused, nervous teenager.”*

What is our response to such a profound and mysterious reality? We can seek to more fully understand such a glorious truth; but perhaps we will gain insights into the truth of the Incarnation for all eternity. The apostle Peter reveals that even the angels marvel at God’s salvation. *“It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves but you, when they spoke of the things that have now been told you by those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. Even angels long to look into these things”* (1 Peter 1:12).

The hymn writer understood that when we consider the Incarnation. Worship should be our natural response.

God of God, Light of Light;  
Lo, he abhors not the virgin’s womb;  
Very God, begotten, not created;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Great Peace in the Lord,

Eddie