

# What Child is This?

Various Scriptures



# William Chatterton Dix

## The Manger Throne

Like silver lamps in a distant shrine,  
The stars are sparkling bright  
The bells of the city of God ring out,  
For the Son of Mary is born to-night.  
The gloom is past and the morn at last  
Is coming with orient light. Never fell melodies half so sweet  
As those which are filling the skies,  
And never a palace shone half so fair  
As the manger bed where our Saviour lies;  
No night in the year is half so dear  
As this which has ended our sighs.

Now a new Power has come on the earth,  
A match for the armies of Hell:  
A Child is born who shall conquer the foe,  
And all the spirits of wickedness quell:  
For Mary's Son is the Mighty One  
Whom the prophets of God fortell.

The stars of heaven still shine as at first  
They gleamed on this wonderful night;  
The bells of the city of God peal out  
And the angels' song still rings in the height;  
And love still turns where the Godhead burns  
Hid in flesh from fleshly sight.

Faith sees no longer the stable floor,  
The pavement of sapphire is there  
The clear light of heaven streams out to the world  
And the angels of God are crowding the air,  
And heaven and earth, through the spotless birth  
Are at peace on this night so fair.



# What Child is This?

## Outline:

The MYSTERY of the INCARNATION

The VIRGIN birth

The HUMILITY of JESUS CHRIST



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What Child is This?

## **VERSE 1:**

**What Child is this** who,  
laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom Angels greet with  
anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are  
keeping?

## **CHORUS:**

**This, this is Christ the King,**  
Whom shepherds guard and  
Angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him  
laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.



# What Child is This?

## The Mystery of the Incarnation

Incarnation – Latin meaning “in-flesh” or “in-fleshing”

Verb form – “to give bodily form and substance to”

Adjective – “invested with bodily and especially human nature and form, embodied”



# What Child is This?

## The Mystery of the Incarnation

**Incarnation – “the Eternal Son of God put on flesh and blood and became fully human”**

**Mystery – “a truth that one can know only by revelation and cannot be fully understood”**



# What Child is This?

The Mystery of the Incarnation

John 1:14 - “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...”

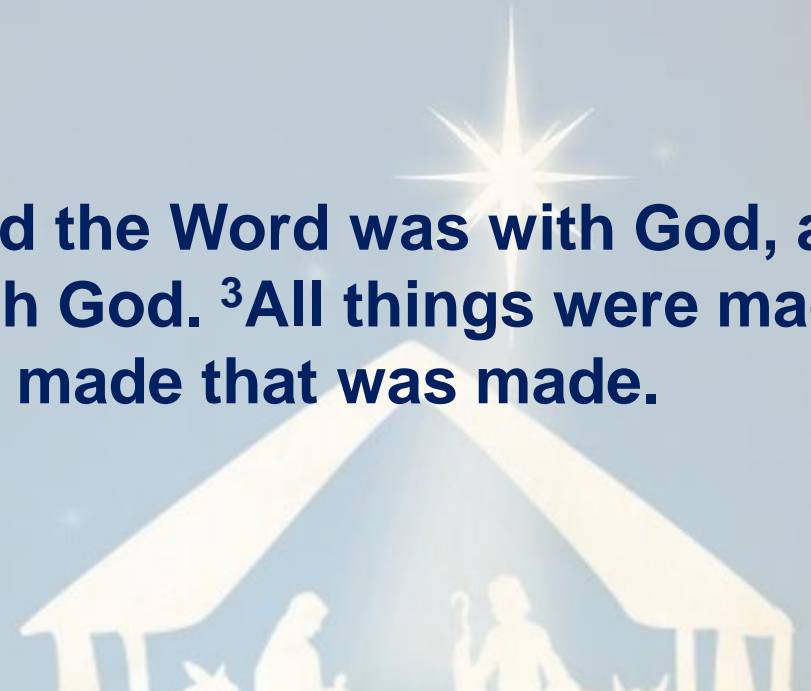


# What Child is This?

## The Mystery of the Incarnation

**John 1:14a - “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us ...”**

**John 1:1-3 - <sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.**





# What Child is This?

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE INCARNATION:

- One nature does some things that the other nature does not do
- Anything one nature does, the person of Christ does – anything true of the human or divine nature is true of the person of Christ
- Since the incarnation, God the Son exists not just as the eternal Son of God, but also as Jesus, the son of Mary and as Christ the Messiah and Savior of His people



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**The Virgin Birth – Luke 1:30-35, 38:**

**<sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God... <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.**



# What Child is This?

## The Virgin Birth Accomplishes:

- The uniting of full deity and humanity in one person
- The possibility of Jesus' true humanity without inherited sin



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What Child is This?

## **VERSE 2:**

**Why lies He in such mean  
estate, where ox and ass are  
feeding?**

Good Christians, fear, for  
sinners here

The silent Word is pleading.

## **CHORUS:**

Nails, spear shall pierce Him  
through,

The cross be borne for me, for  
you.

Hail, hail the Word made  
flesh,

The Babe, the Son of Mary.



# What Child is This?

## The Humility of Jesus Christ – Philippians 2:5-8:

<sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.



# What Child is This?

**The Humility of Jesus Christ – Philippians 2:5-8:**

- **Form – The ESSENCE of what something is**
- **Likeness – The external appearance, shape, what a thing resembles**
- **Appearance – “fashioned”, the outward appearance**



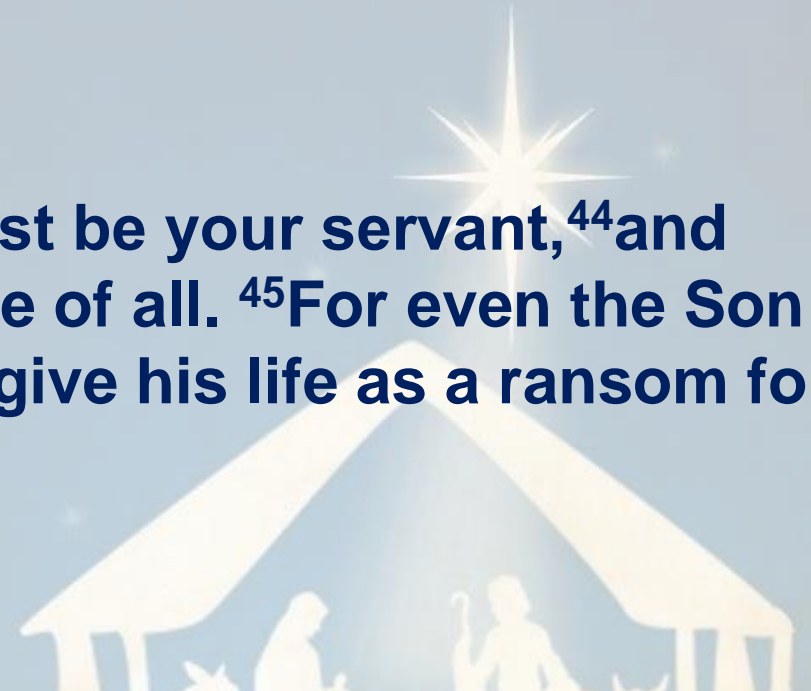
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**The Humility of Jesus Christ – Philippians 2:5-8:**

**Jesus existed in FORM, the essence of God and in the incarnation became the FORM, the essence of a servant / slave**

**Mark 10:43b-45:**

**<sup>43</sup>... But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,<sup>44</sup>and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. <sup>45</sup>For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**





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VERSE 3:

**So bring Him** incense, gold  
and myrrh,

**Come** peasant, king **to own**  
**Him;**

The King of kings salvation  
brings,

**Let loving hearts enthrone**  
**Him.**

CHORUS:

Raise, raise a song on high,  
The Virgin sings her lullaby.

Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.



# What Child is This?

**How will you respond to the Incarnation of Jesus Christ?**

