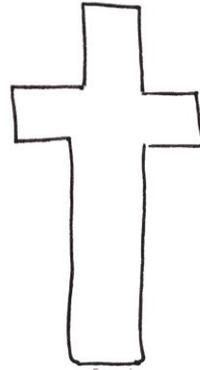


The Incarnation

Revised 12-19-2013



The incarnation was when God the Son came down to earth, became a man, and lived the most remarkable life for us! He added a human nature to His divine nature and still remained one person! He didn't leave anything from His divine nature behind, nor did He take away anything from the human nature. God the Son descended, or came down from the third heaven and became **true humanity**, but without a sin nature! The **deity of the Son** never left Him. He remained God as He will for all time and eternity!



Philippians 2:6 Who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied [laid aside His privileges] Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.

Now God is infinite, and He can do anything that doesn't go against His divine nature. In our finite minds, it is difficult for us to understand how God can have a human nature and a divine nature in one person! Our minds don't get it! However, what we don't understand, we can believe because we have the word of God. We know that God never lies to us! He always keeps His word! We believe and have faith in the fantastic person of our Lord, Jesus Christ! We can relax!

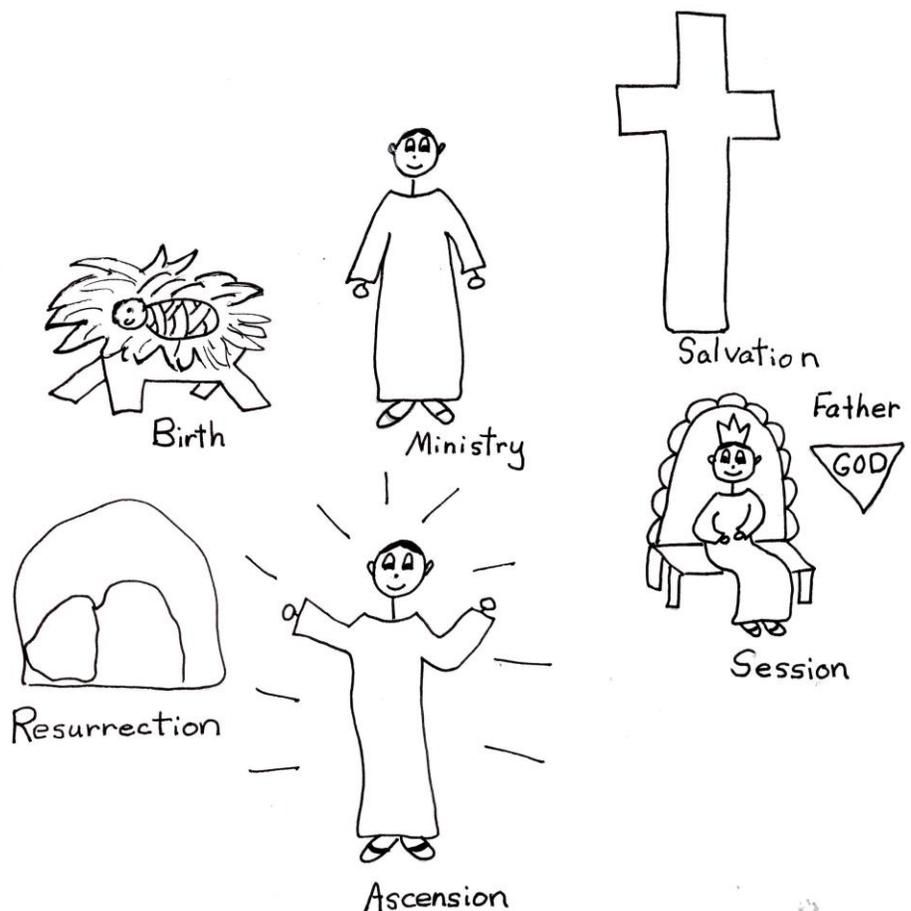


John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

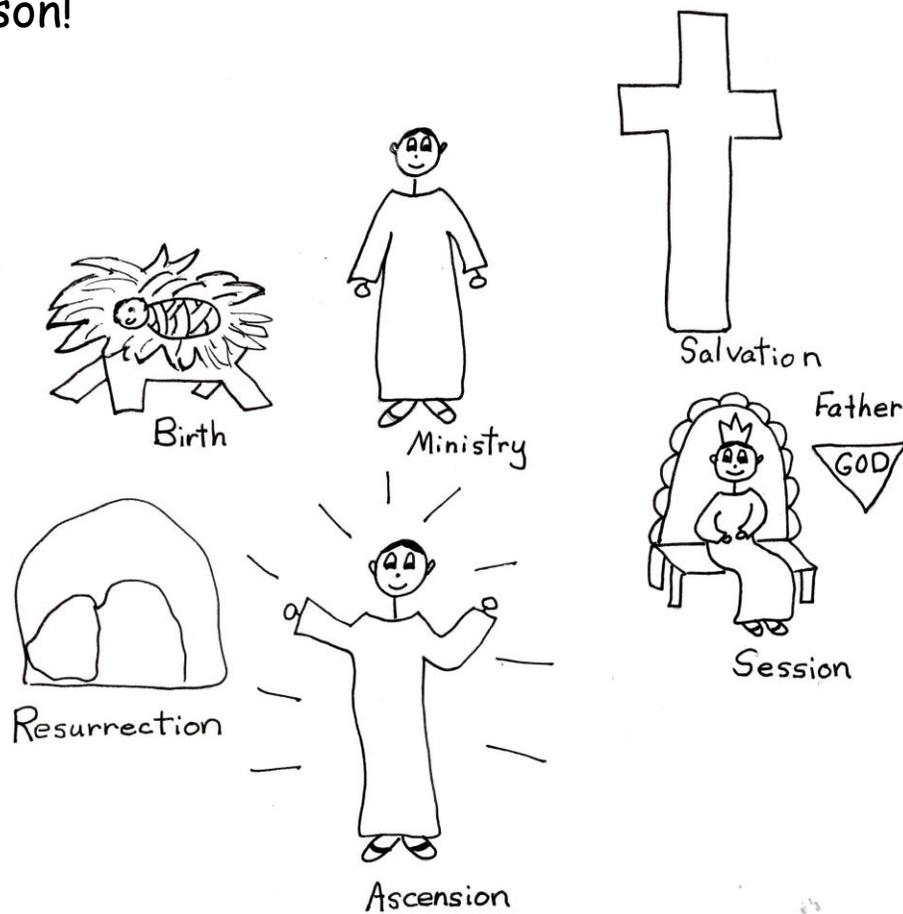
Isaiah 55:8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the Lord.

The incarnation was not just the birth of Jesus Christ. It began at the birth of Jesus and continues forever! It includes all that Jesus Christ did and does for us. It started with the virgin Mary giving birth to Jesus Christ. He was born without an old sin nature. As God, He was not able to sin; as man, with the filling of the Holy Spirit, He was able not to sin. All through His life He remained sinless! He grew up like any man. He had to learn like we do, even the word of God! He knows what it is like to be lonely, rejected, hungry, tired, fearful, and anything that we could experience. Jesus used His volition to always obey the will of the Father; He never sinned!

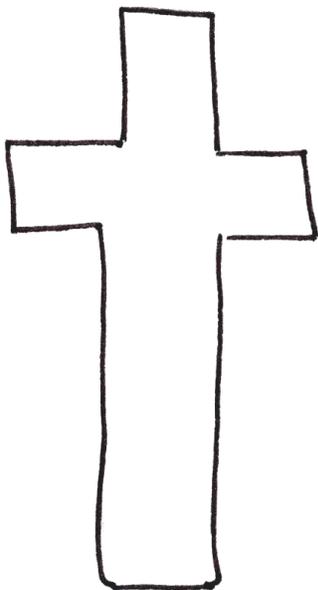
Matthew 1:23 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel" - which means, "God with us."



Jesus went to the cross sinless and paid the price for our sins. He was resurrected and ascended into heaven. He now sits at the right hand of God the Father and prays for us. He uses His humanity to sit and pray! When we don't know what to pray for, He steps in and asks God the Father for what we need! What a great High Priest we have! He does this all while having a human nature and a divine nature in one person!



Why did **God the Son** become incarnate? One reason was so that He might **make known God to man**. Jesus Christ taught us as much about God as can be put into human ideas and realities. Or, He told us everything that could be stuffed into our heads, into our finite minds! The main reason Jesus Christ came was to reveal or teach us the love of God. He showed the love of God in all of His earthly ministry, but the best example of that love was His death upon the cross. We didn't earn it or deserve it. This was a grace gift from God, all three Persons of the Trinity, to us! A gift of love based on Who and what God is, not based on who and what we are. We have such comfort in God's perfect love! There is no love like it. Our God is awesome!



Salvation

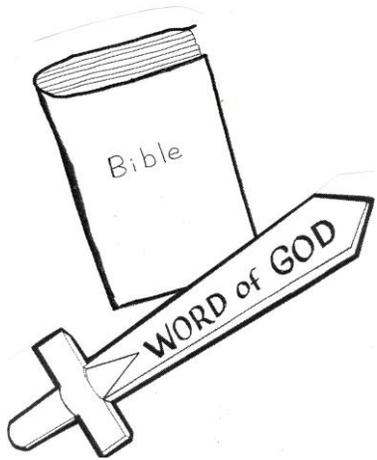


Ministry

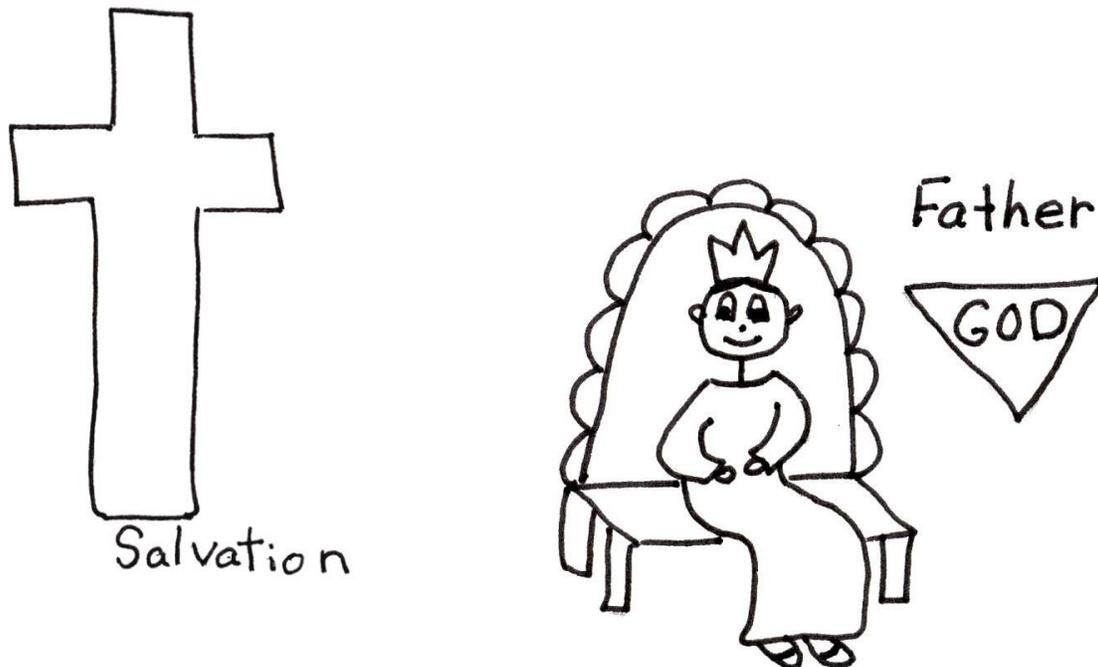
John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten [monogenes: one of a kind] Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort....

The Son of God became true humanity, or became incarnate, to represent man to God. The God-Man is the One in Whom the Father takes perfect delight. *Matthew 3:17* "And behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, 'This is My beloved Son in Whom I am well-pleased.'" The Lord Jesus Christ in hypostatic union, meaning 100% God and 100% man, completely satisfied the righteous requirement of God the Father. We could not do this! It took someone who was 100% perfect God and 100% perfect man. It took the God-Man to do it. Now, all who are in Him, believers, do not have to be slaving away at trying to be perfect! We are perfect, in our new natures, in Him. We have the freedom of operating in grace. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the written word of God, we have the ability to be like Him, the Living Word.

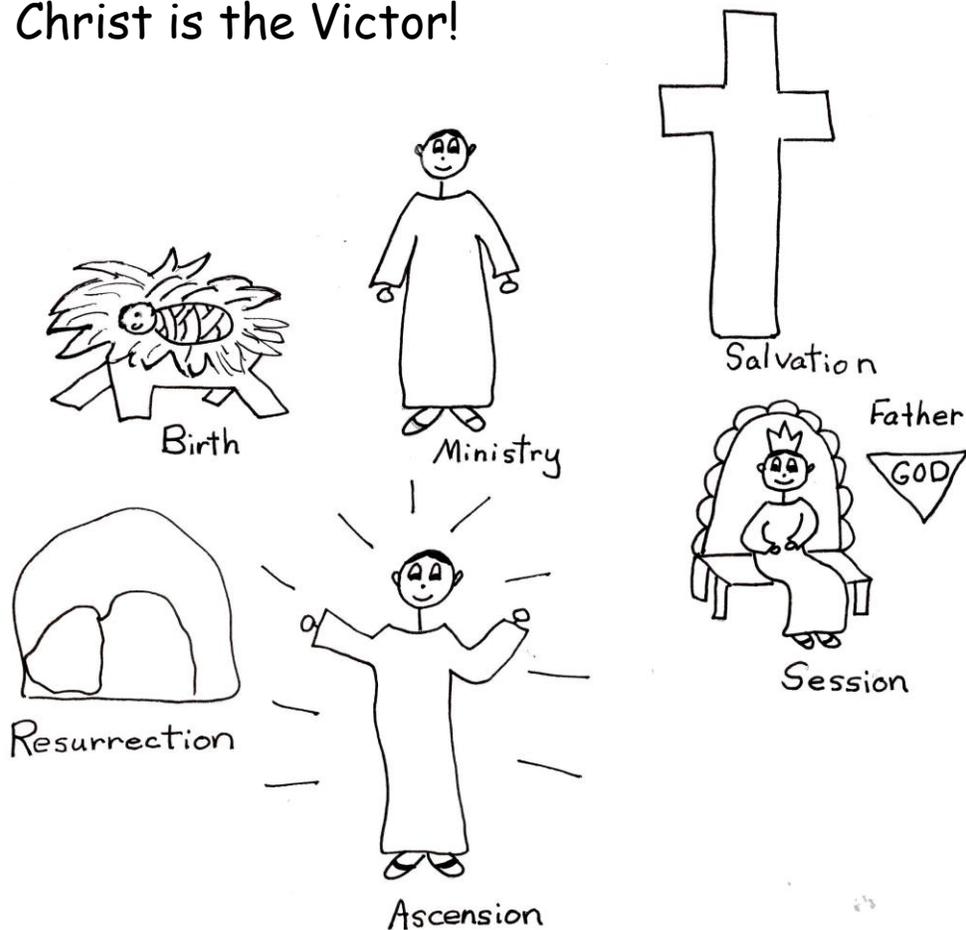


The Son of God also became incarnate, or became true humanity, so that He might be **our merciful and faithful High Priest**. In the Old Testament, the high priest offered animal sacrifices to God for the people. These sacrifices neither saved people nor took away sin. They were visual aids to teach the people about salvation and forgiveness of sin. They were pointing the way to Jesus Christ as our High Priest, our means of salvation, and the way to forgiveness of sins. Jesus Christ offered Himself as a sacrifice for everyone's sins! He was the Priest for the sacrifice, was Himself the sacrifice, and continues to represent mankind to God as our High Priest. What a High Priest we have!



1 Peter 1:18-19 Knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

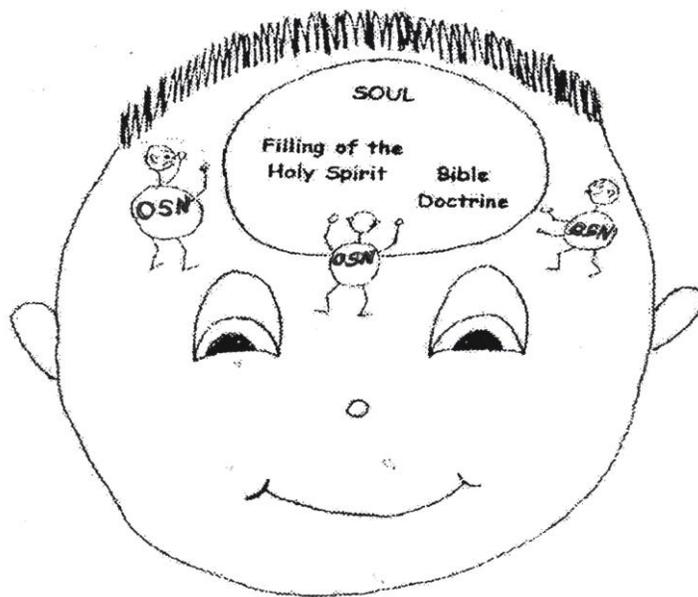
The Son of God became incarnate so that He might **destroy the works of the devil**. Satan and his demons didn't want Jesus Christ to get to the cross and save mankind. So, they waged war to prevent this from happening. However, they never won. Jesus Christ went to the cross and provided salvation for all! The work of Christ on the cross broke Satan's back, so to speak. Satan lost his fight against God's righteousness and justice. Jesus Christ proved how righteous and just God is. He won the victory! Jesus Christ is the Victor!



John 12:31 Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world [Satan] shall be cast out.

Colossians 2:15 When He [God the Father] had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him [Jesus Christ].

The Son of God became incarnate so that He could be **Head over the new creation, the body of Christ**. All believers in the Church-Age dispensation are members of the body of Christ. This has never happened before nor will it happen again in any other dispensation! It is a special union between God and man. We are called the **Royal Family of God!** Because we are in this family, we have special privileges and opportunities. And to whom much is given, much is expected. God doesn't expect us to do anything in our power! On the contrary, He expects us to use the power of the Holy Spirit and Bible doctrine.

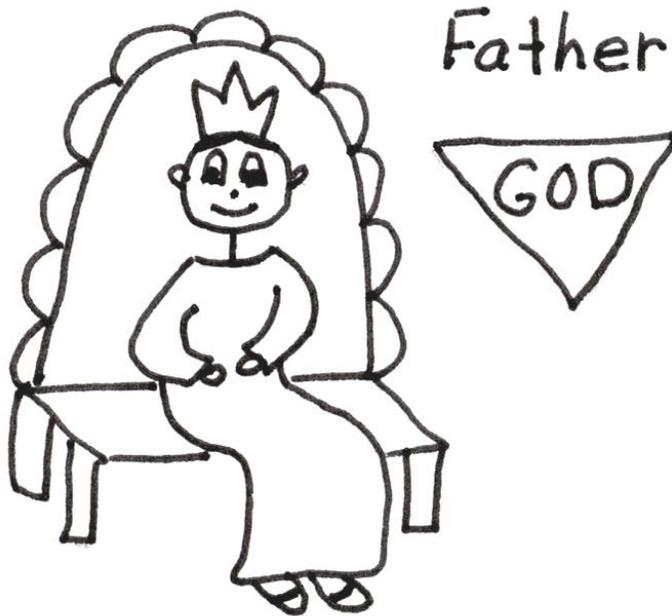


Ephesians 4:15-16 But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, Who is the Head, even Christ, from Whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

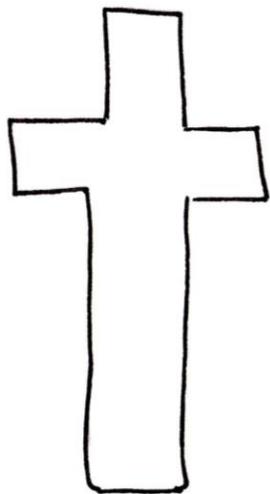
The Son of God became incarnate, became true humanity, so that He might **sit on David's Throne**. God promised David that his kingdom would go on forever! Jesus Christ would be the answer to that promise. Now, in order for that to happen, Jesus Christ had to be a descendant of David. And that He truly was, through His mother Mary. He is the King of the Jews and all believers, **FOREVER!**

2 Samuel 7:16 And your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; Your throne shall be established forever.

Luke 1:32-33 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.



The Son of God became incarnate so that He might be the **Kinsman Redeemer**. Kinsman is another word for a relative. For instance, your cousin is your kinsman. In the time that the Bible was written, a kinsman, or relative of a slave, could go to the slave owner and buy back the slave. He could redeem the slave! Only a kinsman could do this. Jesus Christ became every human's Kinsman when He became part of the human race.

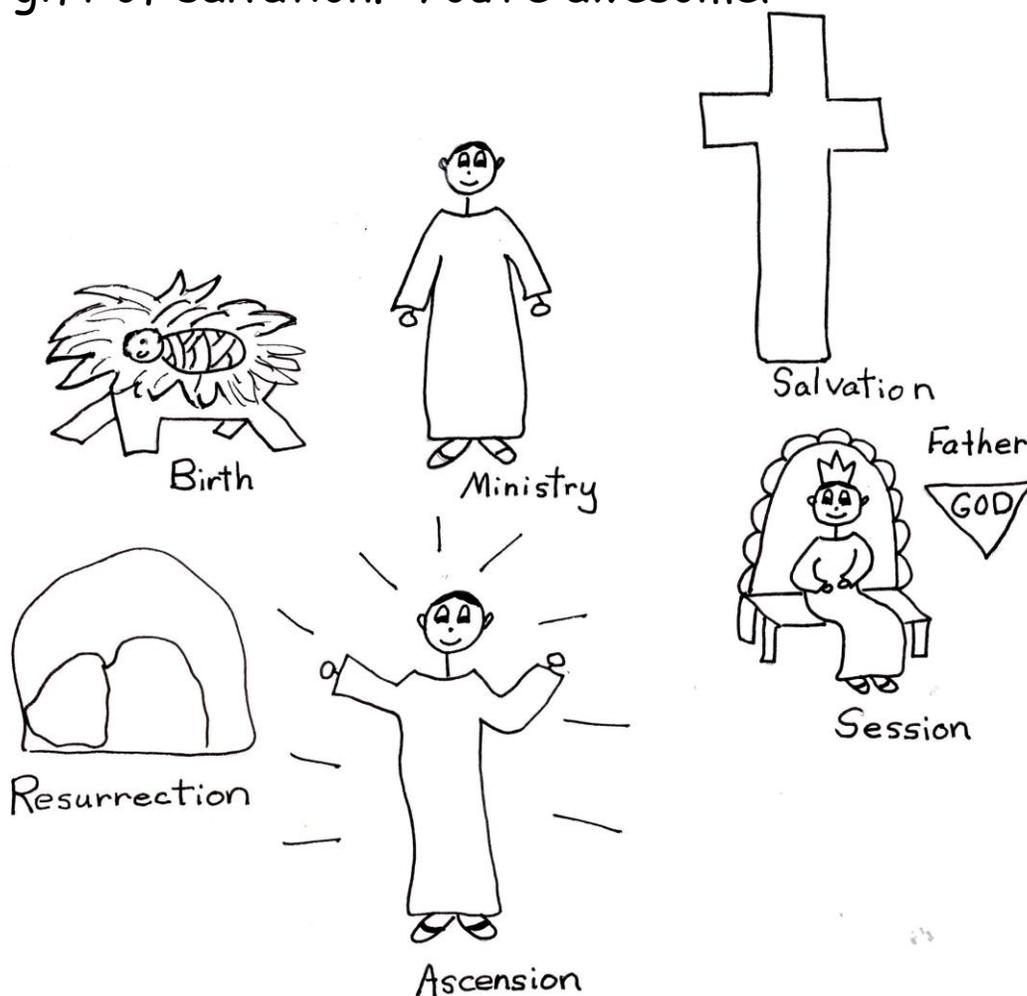


The entire work of redemption is for the lost, all humanity, who have no possibility of redeeming themselves. Our Kinsman Redeemer willingly bought us from the slave market of sin with His substitutionary death on the cross. He died so that we believers could live forever with Him in heaven! We are His kinsmen, and He is our Kinsman. What a Kinsman we have!



John 10:17-18 For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative.

We have God to thank for the Incarnation! We have God to thank for the reality that **God the Son** became a man, and that He kept His divine nature along with His human nature. Neither nature became a part of the other nature. They were separate but still in one Person. This all began at the virgin birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. The reasons for it go on into eternity! Thank you Jesus Christ for taking on a human nature! Thank You for Your gift of salvation. You're awesome!



John 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.