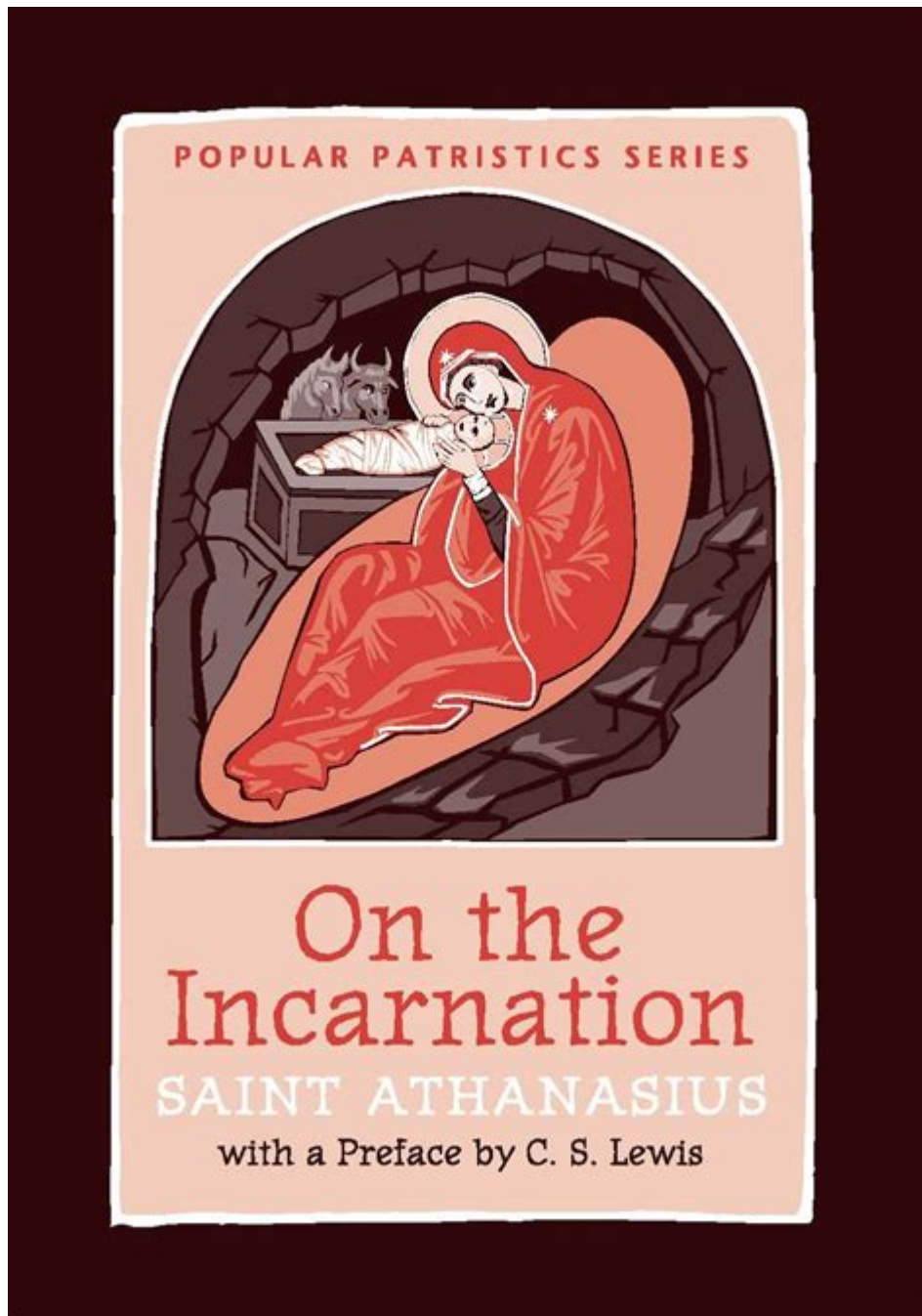


# On The Incarnation



## **On the Incarnation: Exploring the Divine Mystery**

Introduction:

The concept of the Incarnation – God becoming human in the person of Jesus Christ – remains one of Christianity's most profound and debated doctrines. For centuries, theologians and philosophers have grappled with its implications, seeking to understand the "how" and the "why" of this seemingly paradoxical event. This blog post delves into the heart of the Incarnation, exploring its historical

context, theological significance, and enduring relevance for believers and non-believers alike. We'll examine key aspects of this pivotal Christian belief, offering a nuanced understanding of its complexities and its lasting impact on human history and spirituality.

## H2: Historical Context: Setting the Stage for the Incarnation

Before exploring the theological nuances, it's crucial to understand the historical setting in which the Incarnation is understood to have taken place. First-century Palestine was a melting pot of cultures, religions, and political ideologies. The Jewish people, longing for a Messiah to deliver them from Roman oppression, awaited a divinely appointed leader. Greek philosophy, with its emphasis on reason and logic, had permeated the Roman Empire, influencing how people understood the nature of God and humanity. Against this backdrop, the Incarnation emerges as a radical and unexpected intervention in human history. The announcement of a divine savior born in humble circumstances directly challenged the prevailing social and religious norms of the time.

## H2: Theological Interpretations: Understanding the "How" and "Why"

The Incarnation poses a complex theological puzzle. How can God, infinite and eternal, become fully human, finite and temporal, without compromising divine attributes? Several theological perspectives attempt to address this:

H3: The Hypostatic Union: This key concept, central to orthodox Christian belief, asserts that Jesus Christ is both fully God and fully human, with two distinct natures (divine and human) united in one person. This avoids both confusing the divine and human natures and denying the fullness of either.

H3: Kenosis: This term, meaning "self-emptying," suggests that during the Incarnation, Christ voluntarily relinquished certain divine attributes to fully experience human life, including suffering and death. This emphasizes the humility and obedience of Christ.

H3: Chalcedonian Definition: This 451 AD council's definition, a landmark in Christian theology, affirmed the two natures of Christ (divine and human), their distinct properties, and their unconfused and inseparable union in one person. This definition aimed to reconcile various interpretations and provide a more precise theological formulation of the Incarnation.

## H2: The Significance of the Incarnation: Its Impact on Humanity

The Incarnation holds profound implications for humanity:

H3: Reconciliation with God: Through Christ's life, death, and resurrection, Christians believe humanity is reconciled to God. The Incarnation bridges the gap created by human sin, offering forgiveness and the possibility of a restored relationship.

H3: Revelation of God's Nature: The Incarnation reveals God's love, compassion, and self-sacrificing nature in a tangible and relatable way. It shows that God is not distant or uncaring but deeply involved in human affairs.

H3: Example of Obedience and Love: Jesus' life, characterized by humility, obedience, and selfless love, provides a powerful example for believers to emulate. It underscores the importance of living a life of service and compassion.

## H2: The Incarnation's Enduring Relevance:

The Incarnation remains a topic of ongoing discussion and debate, particularly in modern theological discourse. Its implications for ethics, social justice, and interfaith dialogue continue to be explored. The idea of a God who empathizes with human suffering and chooses to enter into the human condition offers a compelling response to the challenges of our time. It inspires hope, compassion, and a commitment to a more just and compassionate world.

Conclusion:

The Incarnation, a central tenet of Christian faith, is a mystery that continues to fascinate and challenge. Its historical context, theological interpretations, and enduring significance provide rich material for reflection and understanding. By examining the complexities surrounding this profound event, we gain a deeper appreciation for the depth and breadth of the Christian faith and its continuing relevance in the 21st century. The ongoing exploration of the Incarnation ensures that its message of love, reconciliation, and hope remains vibrant and relevant for generations to come.

FAQs:

1. What is the difference between the Incarnation and the Trinity? The Trinity refers to the three persons of God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) as one God. The Incarnation specifically focuses on the second person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ, becoming human. The Incarnation is a key aspect within the larger doctrine of the Trinity.
2. How does the Incarnation relate to salvation? Christians believe that through the Incarnation, Jesus' sacrificial death and resurrection atone for humanity's sins, making salvation possible. The Incarnation is the foundation upon which the work of salvation is built.
3. What are some common misunderstandings about the Incarnation? Common misunderstandings include reducing the Incarnation to a mere metaphor or believing that Jesus was only partly human or partly divine. The orthodox Christian position affirms the full humanity and full divinity of Jesus Christ.
4. How does the Incarnation impact ethical decision-making? The Incarnation inspires ethical behavior by providing a model of self-sacrificial love and compassion. It challenges believers to live out their faith in the world, working for justice and showing mercy.
5. How is the Incarnation viewed by other religions? Non-Christian religions generally do not accept the concept of the Incarnation. However, the underlying themes of divine intervention and the importance of compassion are often found in different religious traditions. The Incarnation's uniqueness lies within the specific Christian understanding of God becoming human in Jesus Christ.

**on the incarnation: On the Incarnation** Saint Athanasius (Patriarch of Alexandria), 2011 By any standard, this is a classic of Christian theology. Composed by St. Athanasius in the fourth century, it expounds with simplicity the theological vision defended at the councils of Nicaea and Constantinople: that the Son of God himself became fully human, so that we might become god. Its influence on all Christian theology thereafter, East and West, ensures its place as one of the few must read books of Christian theology for all time.--

**on the incarnation: De Incarnatione Verbi Dei** Saint Patriarch of Alexa Athanasius, 2022-10-27 This work has been selected by scholars as being culturally important, and is part of the knowledge base of civilization as we know it. This work is in the public domain in the United States

of America, and possibly other nations. Within the United States, you may freely copy and distribute this work, as no entity (individual or corporate) has a copyright on the body of the work. Scholars believe, and we concur, that this work is important enough to be preserved, reproduced, and made generally available to the public. We appreciate your support of the preservation process, and thank you for being an important part of keeping this knowledge alive and relevant.

**on the incarnation:** On the Incarnation Saint Athanasius of Alexandria, 2016-04-05 Two names stand above all others in the history of the early Christian church: Augustine and Athanasius. The former was from the West and contended for the doctrine of grace against Roman moralism, while the latter came from the East and became a champion of orthodoxy against Arian attacks on the doctrine of the Trinity. On the Incarnation was Athanasius' second apologetic work, and in it he defends the Christian faith and tries to convince Jews and Greeks that Jesus was not a prophet or teacher but the Christ, the divine incarnation of God's Word. You may find yourself reading Athanasius and thinking that the divine incarnation of Jesus is an obvious point, only to realize that, at some point, it wasn't so obvious. Three hundred years after Jesus ascended to heaven, the Council of Nicaea was still trying to figure out exactly who Jesus was. Through his presence at the Council of Nicaea as an assistant to Alexander and his work in this writing, Athanasius helped early Christianity—indeed all Christianity—to understand something more of the mystery of our faith: God was manifested in the flesh. All Christians, directly or indirectly, have been influenced by Athanasius because of his foundational insistence of who Jesus is. There is perhaps no other Christian writing in which the coming of our Savior is proclaimed so clearly as the way of victory over death. Thanks to Athanasius, and so many other early Christian thinkers, we have a firmer footing in our own exploration and understanding of who God is and how He works.

**on the incarnation:** The Shattering of Loneliness Erik Varden, 2018-09-20 The experience of loneliness is as universal as hunger or thirst. Because it affects us more intimately, we are less inclined to speak of it. But who has not known its gnawing ache? The fear of loneliness causes anguish. It prompts reckless deeds. To this, every age has borne witness. No voice is more insidious than the one that whispers in our ear: 'You are irredeemably alone, no light will pierce your darkness.' The fundamental statement of Christianity is to convict that voice of lying. The Christian condition unfolds within the certainty that ultimate reality, the source of all that is, is a personal reality of communion, no metaphysical abstraction. Men and women, made 'in the image and likeness' of God, bear the mark of that original communion stamped on their being. When our souls and bodies cry out for Another, it is not a sign of sickness, but of health. A labour of potential joy is announced. We are reminded of what we have it in us to become. That our labour may be fruitful, Scripture repeatedly exhorts us to 'remember'. The remembrance enjoined is partly introspective and existential, partly historical, for the God who took flesh to redeem our loneliness leaves traces in history. This book examines six facets of Christian remembrance, complementing biblical exegesis with readings from literature, ancient and modern. It aims to be an essay in theology. At the same time, it proposes a grounded reflection on what it means to be a human being.

**on the incarnation:** On the Incarnation Saint Athanasius (Patriarch of Alexandria), Penelope Lawson, 1998 New edition, revised, with a letter of St. Athanasius on the interpretation of the Psalms added as an appendix. Includes bibliographical references.

**on the incarnation: Practical Religion** John Charles Ryle, 2018-05-15 Reproduction of the original: *Practical Religion* by John Charles Ryle

**on the incarnation:** *The First Days of Jesus* Andreas J. Köstenberger, Alexander Stewart, 2015-09-01 A bright star. A lowly manger. Shepherds keeping watch over their flocks. Everyone knows at least something about the first Christmas. But there's more to the story than what can be contained on a greeting card. Investigating the social, cultural, and political background to the New Testament narratives, this prequel to *The Final Days of Jesus: The Most Important Week of the Most Important Person Who Ever Lived* explores the real meaning of Christ's birth in a fresh and compelling way. Perfect for those looking for something to read during Advent, this book combines scholarly insights with warm reflections in order to inform the mind and stir the soul.

**on the incarnation: The Incarnation of God** John Clark, Marcus Peter Johnson, 2015-03-31 It's the defining reality of all existence, the central fact of human history, and the heart of the Christian faith: God became a man and lived among us. More than just part of the Christmas story, the doctrine of the incarnation radically affects our understanding of God, humanity, life, death, and salvation. In *The Incarnation of God*, theology professors John Clark and Marcus Johnson explore this foundational Christian confession, examining its implications for the church's knowledge and worship of God. Grounded in Scripture and informed by church history, this book will help Christians rediscover the inestimable significance of the truth that the Son of God became what we are without ceasing to be the eternal God—the greatest mystery of the universe.

**on the incarnation: Atonement** Thomas F. Torrance, 2014-09-09 This companion volume to T. F. Torrance's *Incarnation: The Person and Life of Christ* presents the material on the work of Christ, centered in the atonement, given originally in his lectures delivered to his students in Christian Dogmatics on Christology at New College, Edinburgh, from 1952-1978.

**on the incarnation: Found in Him** Elyse M. Fitzpatrick, 2013-10-31 Everyone, Christians included, knows what it's like to feel isolated and alone. We've all wondered if anyone really understands us or truly cares about our lives. The good news is that we aren't alone, and the gospel tells us why: Jesus, the Son of God, came to earth to be forever united with his people—to be one of us. In fact, he has so united himself with us that the Bible says we are literally "in" him. Far from being alone and lost, the Incarnation changes everything for the Christian. Writing with everyday readers in mind, Elyse Fitzpatrick fleshes out the practical implications of our union with Christ and gives us confidence that we are not alone in this approachable and applicable devotional book.

**on the incarnation: Incarnation** Rev. Adam Hamilton, 2020-09-15 Be Transformed this Advent Season! His parents gave him the name Jesus. But the prophets, the shepherds, the wise men, and the angels addressed him by other names. They called him Lord, Messiah, Savior, Emmanuel, Light of the World, and Word Made Flesh. In *Incarnation: Rediscovering the Significance of Christmas*, best-selling author Adam Hamilton examines the names of Christ used by the gospel writers, exploring the historical and personal significance of his birth. This Advent season church families will come together to remember what's important. In the face of uncertainty and conflict, Christians reclaim the Christ Child who brings us together, heals our hearts, and calls us to bring light into the darkness. Now more than ever, we invite you to reflect upon the significance of the Christ-child for our lives and world today! *Incarnation* is a standalone book, but works beautifully as a four-week Bible study experience perfect for all age groups during the Advent season. Additional components include a comprehensive Leader Guide, a DVD with short teaching videos featuring Adam Hamilton, as well as resources for children and youth.

**on the incarnation: Athanasius De Incarnatione** Saint Athanasius (Patriarch of Alexandria), 1891

**on the incarnation: The Incarnation of the Son of God** Charles Gore, 1891

**on the incarnation: Against the Heathen** ,

**on the incarnation: The Incarnation** Stephen T. Davis, Daniel Kendall, Gerald O'Collins, 2004 This interdisciplinary study follows an international and ecumenical meeting of twenty-four scholars held in New York at Easter 2000: the Incarnation Summit. After an opening chapter, which summarizes and evaluates twelve major questions concerning the Incarnation, five chapters are dedicated to the biblical roots of this central Christian doctrine. A patristic and medieval section corrects misinterpretations and retrieves for today the significance of the Council of Chalcedon (AD 451) and its aftermath, as well as clarifying Aquinas' enduring metaphysical interpretation of the Incarnation. The volume then moves to theological and philosophical debates: three scholars take up such systematic issues as belief in the Incarnation, the self-emptying that it involves, and its compatibility with divine timelessness. The remaining four essays consider the place of the doctrine of the Incarnation in literature, ethics, art, and preaching. There is a fruitful dialogue between experts in a wide range of areas and the international reputation of the participants reflects and guarantees the high quality of this joint work. The result is a well researched, skilfully argued, and,

at times, provocative volume on the central Christian belief: the Incarnation of the Son of God.

**on the incarnation: The Incarnation in the Gospels** Richard D. Phillips, Philip Graham Ryken, Daniel M. Doriani, 2022-11-02

**on the incarnation:** *Fishery Market News* , 1988

**on the incarnation: Jesus: The Incarnation of the Word** David Mitchell, 2023-07-24 The Great Unspoken in Jewish-Christian dialogue is Jesus's conception. It's a topic avoided even by many who accept his resurrection. This book tackles the issue. Did Jesus exist before Bethlehem? Who was mysterious Melchizedek? What does Psalm 110 really say? How far do the variant genealogies of Matthew and Luke really make sense? Was Mary a peasant or a princess? And what are the options for Jesus's paternity? Just how Jewish was he really? Just as the author's Messiah ben Joseph examined the ancient origins of the sacrificial Messiah promised to Joseph, so Jesus: The Incarnation of the Word looks at the origins of the Zadokite Messiah. BACK COVER REVIEWS David Mitchell's Jesus: The Incarnation of the Word is a fascinating read. While its title seemingly rehearses well-trodden paths that need no further attention, that presumption could not be more misguided. The author is deeply conversant in the Hebrew Bible, Septuagint, Second Temple Jewish literature, Rabbinic writings, and early Christian and Patristic texts. All are brought into service to offer intriguing solutions to various difficulties arising from the Davidic (and priestly!) genealogies of Joseph and Mary and the relationship of Jesus to Melchizedek and the Angel of the Lord. Readers will find this a rewarding study. Michael S. Heiser, PhD (Hebrew Studies, Wisconsin) Bestselling author of *The Unseen Realm* Executive Director and Professor, Awakening School of Theology Jesus: The Incarnation of the Word brings readers on an eye-opening journey through Old and New Testament texts, genealogies, and extra-biblical sources ancient and modern to probe the core question distinguishing Christianity from other faiths: is Jesus God in the flesh? With meticulous attention to detail, David C. Mitchell applies his exegetical acumen and extensive expertise in second temple and Rabbinic literature to uncover the remarkable breadth of the Bible's testimony about the Messiah and its long history of discussion. Erudite, witty, and eminently readable, this volume will enlighten, challenge, and inspire as it reveals how deep and wide are the Bible's messianic promises fulfilled in Jesus of Nazareth. Dr Adam D. Hensley, Australian Lutheran College, University of Divinity Author of *Covenant Relationships* and the Editing of the Hebrew Psalter

**on the incarnation: Speech and Theology** James K.A. Smith, 2005-06-29 God is infinite, but language finite; thus speech would seem to condemn Him to finitude. In speaking of God, would the theologian violate divine transcendence by reducing God to immanence, or choose, rather, to remain silent? At stake in this argument is a core problem of the conditions of divine revelation. How, in terms of language and the limitations of human understanding, can transcendence ever be made known? Does its very appearance not undermine its transcendence, its condition of unknowability? Speech and Theology posits that the paradigm for the encounter between the material and the divine, or the immanent and transcendent, is found in the Incarnation: God's voluntary self-immersion in the human world as an expression of His love for His creation. By this key act of grace, hinged upon Christ's condescension to human finitude, philosophy acquires the means not simply to speak of perfection, which is to speak theologically, but to bridge the gap between word and thing in general sense.

**on the incarnation: A Kryptic Model of the Incarnation** Dr Andrew Loke, 2014-12-28 The Incarnation, traditionally understood as the metaphysical union between true divinity and true humanity in the one person of Jesus Christ, is one of the central doctrines for Christians over the centuries. Nevertheless, many scholars have objected that the Scriptural account of the Incarnation is incoherent. Being divine seems to entail being omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent, but the New Testament portrays Jesus as having human properties such as being apparently limited in knowledge, power, and presence. It seems logically impossible that any single individual could possess such mutually exclusive sets of properties, and this leads to scepticism concerning the occurrence of the Incarnation in history. A Kryptic Model of the Incarnation aims to provide a critical reflection of various attempts to answer these challenges and to offer a compelling response

integrating aspects from analytic philosophy of religion, systematic theology, and historical-critical studies. Loke develops a new Kryptic model of the Incarnation, drawing from the Greek word *Krypsis* meaning 'hiding', and proposing that in a certain sense Christ's supernatural properties were concealed during the Incarnation.

**on the incarnation: The Metaphysics of the Incarnation** Anna Marmodoro, Jonathan Hill, 2011-01-06 A collection of original essays by leading philosophers of religion and philosophical theologians addressing the metaphysics of incarnation. Can it make sense to say that a single individual is both fully human and fully divine? What implications does such a claim have for our notions of humanity, divinity and personhood?

**on the incarnation: The God Who Became Human** Graham Cole, 2013-05-14 Seeking an answer to Anselm's timeless question, Why did God become man? Graham Cole follows Old Testament themes of preparation, theophany and messianic hope through to the New Testament witness to the divinely foretold event. This New Studies in Biblical Theology volume concludes with a consideration of the theological and existential implications of the incarnation of God.

**on the incarnation: On the Incarnation for Teens** Aidan McLachlan, 2018-11-07 On The Incarnation for Teens is an easy-to-read, instructional book which simplifies the deep theological discussions that are in the original text. This book helps answer many common questions teenagers have today about the incarnation of Christ allowing the reader to apply everyday theology to everyday life!

**on the incarnation: The Incarnation** Timothy J. Pawl, 2020-10-22 The Doctrine of the Incarnation, that Jesus Christ was both truly God and truly human, is the foundation and cornerstone of traditional Christian theism. And yet, this traditional teaching appears to verge on incoherence. How can one person be both God, having all the perfections of divinity, and human, having all the limitations of humanity? This is the fundamental philosophical problem of the incarnation. Perhaps a solution is found in an analysis of what the traditional teaching meant by person, divinity, and humanity, or in understanding how divinity and humanity were united in a single person? This Element presents that traditional teaching, then returns to the incoherence problem to showcase various solutions that have been offered to it.

**on the incarnation: Retrieving Nicaea** Khaled Anatolios, 2011-10 The Art of Isis Sousa & Guests is a highly inspirational tool for you who are a Fantasy Art lover and are developing your artistic skills. The book is bound with beautiful, high-end Fantasy and Dark Fantasy works from Isis Sousa and renowned guests: Uwe Jarling, Kirsi Salonen, Jezabel Nekrane, Ertaç Altınöz, Rochelle Green, Alexander Nanitchkov, Marius Bota, Marilena Mexi, Mariana Veira and Nathie Block. Take a learning and insightful journey through the dozens of tips, articles, tutorials, lectures, video classes and nonetheless, fantastic artworks which make this one-of-a-kind art-book experience.

**on the incarnation: Talking about Race** Isaac Adams, 2022-01-04 Conversations about racism are as important as they are hard for American Christians. Yet the conversation often gets so ugly, even among the faithful who claim unity in Jesus. Why is that the case? Why does it matter? Can things get better, or are we permanently divided? In this honest and hopeful book, pastor Isaac Adams doesn't just show you how to have the race conversation, he begins it for you. By offering a fictional, racially charged tragedy in order to understand varying perspectives and responses, he examines what is at stake if we ignore this conversation, and why there's just as much at stake in how we have that discussion, especially across color lines--that is, with people of another ethnicity. This unique approach offers insight into how to listen to one another well and seek unity in Christ. Looking to God's Word, Christians can find wisdom to speak gracefully and truthfully about racism for the glory of God, the good of their neighbors, and the building up of the church. Some feel that the time for talking is over, and that we've heard all this before. But given how polarized American society is becoming--its churches not exempt--fresh attention on the dysfunctional communication between ethnicities is more than warranted. Adams offers an invitation to faithfully combat the racism so many of us say we hate and maintain the unity so many of us say we want. Together we can learn to speak in such a way that we show a divided world a different world. Talking About Race

points to the starting line, not the finish line, when it comes to following Jesus amid race relations. It's high time to begin running.

**on the incarnation: Divinity and Humanity** Oliver D. Crisp, 2007-02-15 The doctrine of the Incarnation lies at the heart of Christianity. But the idea that 'God was in Christ' has become a much-debated topic in modern theology. Oliver Crisp addresses six key issues in the Incarnation defending a robust version of the doctrine, in keeping with classical Christology. He explores perichoresis, or interpenetration, with reference to both the Incarnation and Trinity. Over two chapters Crisp deals with the human nature of Christ and then provides an argument against the view, common amongst some contemporary theologians, that Christ had a fallen human nature. He considers the notion of divine kenosis or self-emptying, and discusses non-Incarnational Christology, focusing on the work of John Hick. This view denies Christ is God Incarnate, regarding him as primarily a moral exemplar to be imitated. Crisp rejects this alternative account of the nature of Christology.

**on the incarnation: Five Books of S. Irenaeus** Saint Irenaeus (Bp. of Lyons), 1872

**on the incarnation: The Man Christ Jesus** Bruce A. Ware, 2012-11-30 Liberal attacks on the doctrine of the divinity of Christ have led evangelicals to rightly affirm the centrality of Jesus's divine nature for his person and work. At times, however, this defense of orthodoxy has led some to neglect Christ's full humanity. To counteract this oversight, theologian Bruce Ware takes readers back to the biblical text, where we meet a profoundly human Jesus who struggled with many of the same difficulties and limitations we face today. Like us, he grew in faith and wisdom, tested by every temptation common to man. And like us, he too received power for godliness through the Holy Spirit, and thus serves not only as the divine Lord to be worshiped, but also the supreme Human to be followed.

**on the incarnation: Cur Deus Homo?** Saint Anselm (Archbishop of Canterbury), 1909

**on the incarnation: Wiley Blackwell Companion to Karl Barth** George Hunsinger, Keith L. Johnson, 2020-01-10 The most comprehensive scholarly survey of Karl Barth's theology ever published Karl Barth, arguably the most influential theologian of the 20th century, is widely considered one of the greatest thinkers within the history of the Christian tradition. Readers of Karl Barth often find his work both familiar and strange: the questions he considers are the same as those Christian theologians have debated for centuries, but he often addresses these questions in new and surprising ways. The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Karl Barth helps readers understand Barth's theology and his place in the Christian tradition through a new lens. Covering nearly every topic related to Barth's life and thought, this work spans two volumes, comprising 66 in-depth chapters written by leading experts in the field. Volume One explores Barth's dogmatic theology in relation to traditional Christian theology, provides historical timelines of Barth's life and works, and discusses his significance and influence. Volume Two examines Barth's relationship to various figures, movements, traditions, religions, and events, while placing his thought in its theological, ecumenical, and historical context. This groundbreaking work: Places Barth into context with major figures in the history of Christian thought, presenting a critical dialogue between them Features contributions from a diverse team of scholars, each of whom are experts in the subject Provides new readers of Barth with an introduction to the most important questions, themes, and ideas in Barth's work Offers experienced readers fresh insights and interpretations that enrich their scholarship Edited by established scholars with expertise on Barth's life, his theology, and his significance in Christian tradition An important contribution to the field of Barth scholarship, the Wiley Blackwell Companion to Karl Barth is an indispensable resource for scholars and students interested in the work of Karl Barth, modern theology, or systematic theology.

**on the incarnation: The Scandal of the Incarnation** Hans Urs Von Balthasar, 2012-09-26 Saint Irenaeus was the first great Christian theologian. Born in Asia Minor in about 130 A.D., he became Bishop of Lyons and died as a martyr early in the third century. His main work, *Adversus Haereses* (Against the Heresies), is as relevant today as it was eighteen hundred years ago. It is a critique of Gnosticism, the 'anti-body' heresy, which, far from dying out, continues to flourish as the main threat



to the Christian faith in our own day. With serenity and good humor, Irenaeus unfolds the unity of God's purpose in creation and redemption, in Old and New Testaments. The flesh and blood which Gnosticism so despised has been assumed by God in the womb of the Virgin Mary, and glorified in the Resurrection and the Eucharist. In this book, quotations from Saint Irenaeus have been arranged thematically in order to show the unity of his Christian view of the world. The texts have been selected and are introduced by the late Hans Urs von Balthasar, who is widely regarded as one of the greatest Catholic theologians of this century. They are translated by John Saward. Everything in Irenaeus is bathed in a warm and radiant joy, a wise and majestic gentleness. His words of struggle are hard as iron and crystal clear, ... so penetrating that they cannot fail to enlighten the unbiased observer. - Hans Urs von Balthasar

**on the incarnation: The Whole Mystery of Christ** Jordan Daniel Wood, 2022-10-15 A thoroughgoing examination of Maximus Confessor's singular theological vision through the prism of Christ's cosmic and historical Incarnation. Jordan Daniel Wood changes the trajectory of patristic scholarship with this comprehensive historical and systematic study of one of the most creative and profound thinkers of the patristic era: Maximus Confessor (560-662 CE). Wood's panoramic vantage on Maximus's thought emulates the theological depth of Hans Urs von Balthasar's *Cosmic Liturgy* while also serving as a corrective to that classic text. Maximus's theological vision may be summed up in his enigmatic assertion that "the Word of God, very God, wills always and in all things to actualize the mystery of his Incarnation." *The Whole Mystery of Christ* sets out to explicate this claim. Attentive to the various contexts in which Maximus thought and wrote—including the wisdom of earlier church fathers, conciliar developments in Christological and Trinitarian doctrine, monastic and ascetic ways of life, and prominent contemporary philosophical traditions—the book explores the relations between God's act of creation and the Word's historical Incarnation, between the analogy of being and Christology, and between history and the Fall, in addition to treating such topics as grace, deification, theological predication, and the ontology of nature versus personhood. Perhaps uniquely among Christian thinkers, Wood argues, Maximus envisions *creatio ex nihilo* as *creatio ex Deo* in the event of the Word's kenosis: the mystery of Christ is the revealed identity of the Word's historical and cosmic Incarnation. This book will be of interest to scholars and students of patristics, historical theology, systematic theology, and Byzantine studies.

**on the incarnation: Creation and the Cross** Johnson, Elizabeth A., 2018-02-22

**on the incarnation:** *On the Incarnation with Against the Heathen* Athanasius Alexandria, St Athanasius of Alexandria, 2018-01-24 A Double Volume Edition of Saint Athanasius of Alexandria's *Against the Heathen* along with his famed work *On the Incarnation*. This compilation was curated and typeset by Paterikon Publications utilizing the original text and notes from the Second Series of Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers.

**on the incarnation:** *Incarnation in Hinduism and Christianity* Daniel E Bassuk, 1987-01-26

**on the incarnation: Four Discourses Against the Arians** ,

**on the incarnation: On the Incarnation** St Athanasius Patriarch of Alexandria, 2012-10-10 As one of history's most passionate defenders of Christian doctrine, Saint Athanasius is notable for his apologist essays and their substantial contribution to early Orthodox theology. As a bishop serving in fourth century Alexandria, Athanasius composed this essay in his early life and devoted it to a number of issues still debated by theologians today, including monotheism, spiritual salvation, and the divine nature of Jesus Christ.

**on the incarnation:** *Christ the Key* Kathryn Tanner, 2010 An innovative Christ-centered theology exploring the centrality of Christ for Christian thought and shedding fresh light on major theological issues.

**on the incarnation: The Incarnation** Thomas R. Worth, 2018-10-22 This collection of Advent and Christmas poems from the pen of Thomas Worth is shared in the hope that readers will fall more in love with the One who became incarnate and dwelt among us. Here, at this beginning of miracles, is where we first behold his glory. This beautiful resource is the author's own selection of twenty-five poems and meditations that are perfect as a personal devotional, a Daily Reading for Advent, or as a

Christmas gift. (Artwork by Petrana Petsova.)

*On the Incarnation of the Word - Archive.org*

On the Incarnation of the Word is a classic work of Orthodox theology written by noted bishop of Alexandria, St. Athanasius. In this apologetic treatise, St. Athanasius defends the incarnation of Christ against the derision of 4th century non-believers.

*On the Incarnation: Saint Athanasius The Great of Alexandria ...*

Jan 3, 2012 · By any standard, this is a classic of Christian theology. Composed by St Athanasius in the fourth century, it expounds with simplicity the theological vision defended at the councils of Nicaea and Constantinople: that the Son of God himself became "fully human, so ...

*On the Incarnation - Monergism*

Athanasius stood contra mundum ("against the world") in defense of the biblical doctrine of Christ. He opposed Arius when it seemed all the world would follow Arius's heresy. Athanasius's work remains even today one of the definitive statements of ...

### **On the Incarnation: A Reader's Guide to a Christian Classic**

Jan 31, 2022 · As Athanasius turns to the work of Christ in On the Incarnation, he brings particular attention to his reversal of the loss of the image of God. Humanity has continually rejected ...

*On the Incarnation of the Word - Christian Classics Ethereal Library*

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*On the Incarnation - Wikipedia*

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