

INFINITE TO INFANT

Undercover Boss is a TV show where corporate executives leave the status and comfort of their positions and secretly take low-level jobs within their companies in order to discover more about its daily operations and their employees. Something similar occurred on a much grander scale about 2000 years ago. The infinite creator and ruler over the universe not only came to earth but also lowered Himself to the level of humanity. Unlike the first Adam, who came into this world as an adult in a garden paradise, the second Adam was born as an infant in a dark stall where animals were kept.

'And the Word Became Flesh' and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth, we

have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.....

No one has ever seen God , the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father
has made Him known. - John 1:14-18 excerpts

Every religion and philosophy has words and ideas that are communicated orally or written down. Christianity is unique. We have more than words.....we have The Word come into human form who lived among us. Those who are separated from loved ones at Christmas, especially people like soldiers and missionaries who are in a foreign lands, know how special it is to receive letters, gifts, pictures or talk on the phone with their far away family and friends. However, it is not the same as being with them in person to laugh, hug, share a meal etc.

E.Stanley Jones was once asked by a TV commentator; 'You go throughout the world - preaching. What do you have to preach that others do not have?' He answered: 'I have Jesus Christ - The Word become flesh'.

Jones later wrote: 'This brought a difference not only in degree, but in kind. The Christian faith is not just a little better than other faiths - a little more moral, more free from contradictory elements, more lofty in its conceptions. It is that and more - it is different in kind. Religions are our search for God . **The gospel is God's search for us.** Therefore, there are many religions, but only one gospel. Religions are the word become word, the gospel is the Word become flesh.'

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. - John 1:1

How can one determine what is in a person's heart and mind? By listening to their words and watching their actions. How could sinful mankind know what God was really like? It must be **revealed** by God himself. He first did it through His creation and the Holy Scriptures - Psalm 19. However, it became even more **specific and personal** when Jesus actually lived among us. Sure, there would be others in history who claimed to be god-men, but Jesus was different, He actually demonstrated it..... through his sinless life, superior authority, sacrificial death and supernatural resurrection. All religions have principles but we have more, we have a person.a perfect one. Principles have their place in life but one needs power behind them. Jesus is our empowering presence by His Holy Spirit. We do not just follow principles, we follow a

person.....the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus was '**full of grace and truth**' - John 1:14. One Hindu commented about Jesus: 'We like to listen about a Man who practiced everything He preached.'

Gandhi liked Christ but never became a Christian because the Christians he met did not live like Christ. He had desired to attend a church in S. Africa but was turned away by a church leader because of his skin color. Gandhi influenced hundreds of millions of Indians in the liberation of India from the British. **Who knows how many Indians would have come to Christ if Gandhi had become a Christian himself?**

As Christians, we should practice what we preach and what we say we believe. Dr. Luke gives us some important insight about Jesus.

'In my former book, Theophilus (God lover), I wrote about all that Jesus began to **do and teach** until the day He was taken up to heaven.'

- Acts 1:1-2a NIV

Jesus was God walking on the earth. He said that if we had seen Him, we had seen the Father.

In Christ, all the fullness of Deity (the Godhead) lives in bodily form - Colossians 2:9

Did you notice in the Acts 1 verse that the word **do** came before **teach**? **Jesus lived his message before he taught it.** Jesus **began** to do and teach. He returned to heaven, but His ministry continued in the Acts of the early apostles and has continued for centuries through his true followers.

While living in London, I visited hundreds of Indian homes to tell people about Jesus. One afternoon a small group of Indian children came up to me and one boy asked me what I was doing, I told him that I was telling people about Jesus. He then asked me: 'Who is Jesus.....where does he live?' Amazingly, there are still millions around the world who have never heard of Jesus and millions more who don't know why he came to earth and what his ultimate plans and purposes are.

Jesus who was infinite, lived in glory in the eternal realm, humbly entered this dark world of time as an infant, only to be threatened, mocked, despised, rejected and killed. He did this so that we could be accepted and loved by the Father above.

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! - 1 John 3:1 NIV

The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God. - C. S. Lewis