

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

14.12. 2025

The Arrival: God With Us

In our previous thought, our reflection was that of waiting for the arrival of the Messiah.

Here, we find one of the most extraordinary supernatural events in history: God comes in person to save the world, the Second Coming.

Jesus enters the world into a lowly family. Taking off his form of immortality, he takes on human form, born to a young virgin girl no older than 16 and into conditions unbefitting of a king.

His place of birth lacks any ostentatious decor, but instead, he chooses a stable for animals rather than a place for a king. He enters a world marked by poverty and political oppression, a place of fragility in contrast to comfort.

Fully God yet fully human, he was the giver of life and the custodian of death, but chose to make his earthly appearance in human form. In so doing, he chooses humility over unrestrained power.

Unknown to the powerful and great, "Emmanuel", meaning God is present, is now present in an ordinary place but in a difficult place.

The incarnation, the Word that became flesh, is an affirmation of human dignity. It is an act by which God, through Christ Jesus, sanctifies human experience.

Christmas is a reminder that God will turn up in person to meet our needs most inconspicuously, but our responsibility is to recognise God's presence in the *mangers* of our lives

Luke 2:1–20; John 1:14; Philippians 2:6–8.

The question at hand is where we recognise God's presence in the *manger* moments of our lives, which often lack glamour, are uncomfortable, and are a place of solitude, but a reminder that it is not about money, but that God is with us.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given... Isaiah 9:6

Remember that, regardless of life's darkness, God is with you and me, and He truly enters human struggles.
