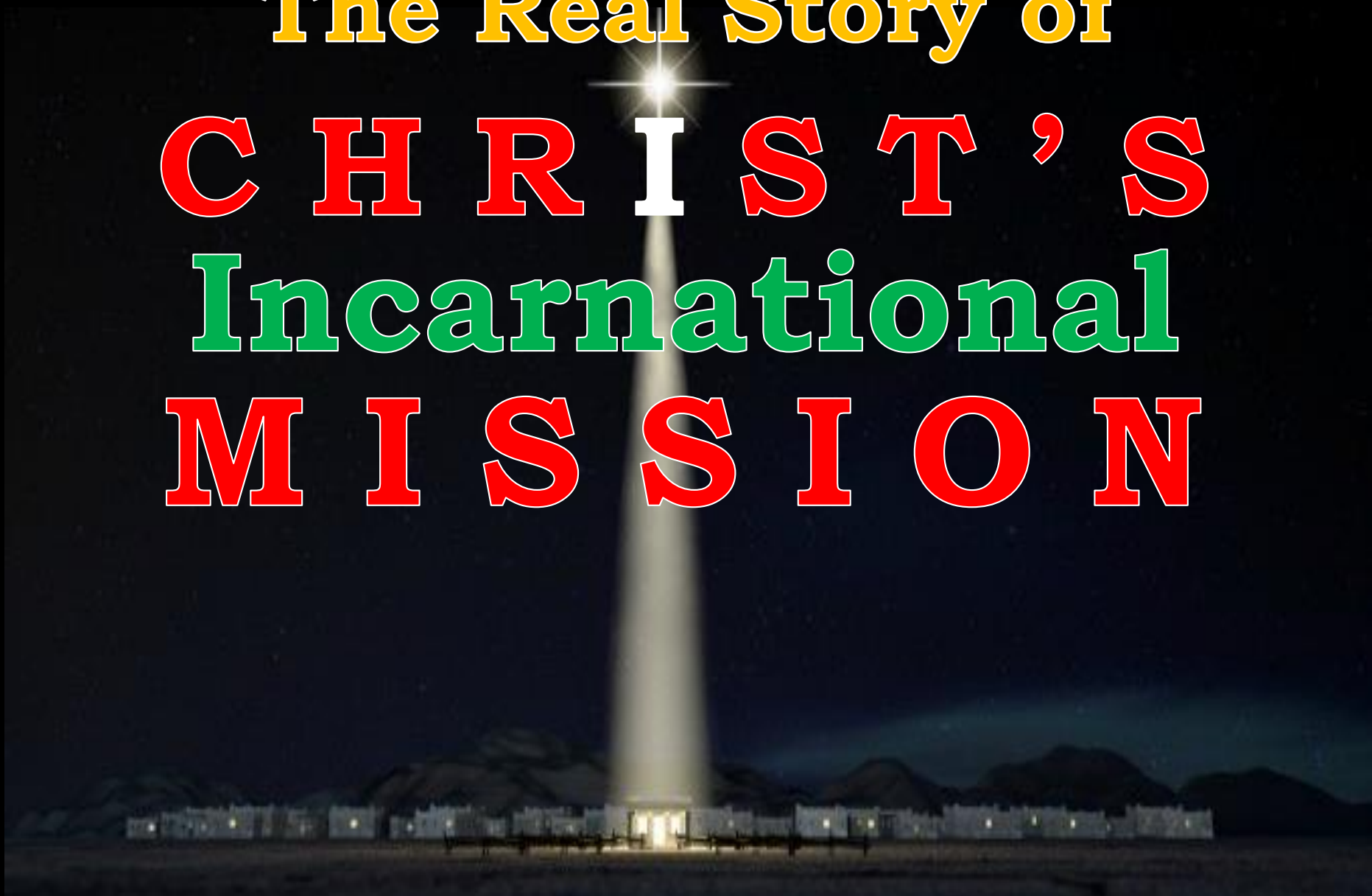


The Real Story of  
**C H R I S T ' S**  
Incarnational  
**M I S S I O N**



**Part 7:**  
**Christ Came to Teach Us**  
**the Ways of the Master**

# QUESTION

When you think of God getting off the throne to become human and the fact that He chose to be born as a baby in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph, what lessons do you see God modeling for you?

# **Luke 2:1**

**At that time the Roman emperor,  
Augustus, decreed that a census  
should be taken throughout the  
Roman Empire.**

# Luke 2:2

(This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

# **Luke 2:3**

**All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census.**

# Luke 2:4

And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee.

# Luke 2:5

He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.



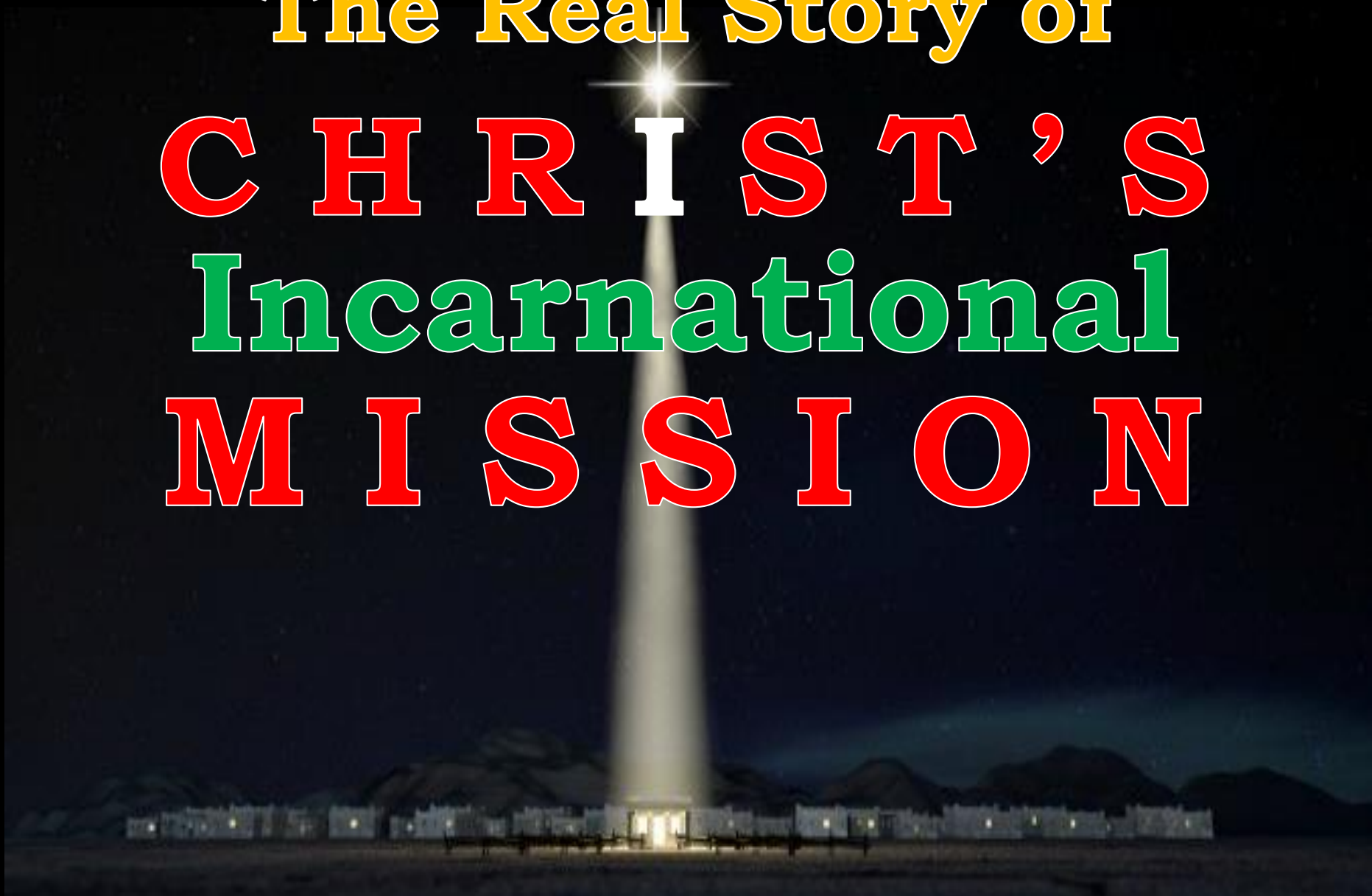
# Luke 2:6

And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born.

## **Luke 2:7**

**She gave birth to her firstborn son.  
She wrapped him snugly in strips of  
cloth and laid him in a manger,  
because there was no lodging  
available for them.**

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# Principle #1

**Unfair situations and radical disruptions to our lives that occur completely outside of our control do not have to be perceived as something negative.**

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# **Unfair, Radical Disruptions**

- **Mary's and Joseph's reputations are ruined (in their own time) because God blesses them with the privilege of being the parents of the Messiah.**
- **Mary must live out the difficulties of being pregnant without the pleasure of getting pregnant.**

# Unfair, Radical Disruptions

- **Joseph must live out the difficulties of being a husband and a father without the pleasure of either of them.**
- **Joseph and pregnant Mary must travel 97.5 miles from Nazareth to Bethlehem because of the greed of the Roman Emperor Augustus. (33 hours of walking)**

# Unfair, Radical Disruptions

- **Road Trip problems**
- **Pregnancy problems**
- **Bandit problems**
- **Weather problems**
- **Money problems**
- **Lodging problems**
- **King of kings is born in a barn**

**How can we not perceive all of  
these things as negative?**

# God's Sovereignty

- **God has a plan. Just because you don't know it or can't see it, doesn't mean He doesn't have it.**
- **God can use any pain, suffering, or brokenness for His ultimate purpose.**
- **When you choose to partner with God, you will witness and experience miracles.**

# Partnering with God

- **Stop complaining about how unfair the situation is.**
- **Stop asking God, “Why me?”**
- **Stop asking God, “How long, O Lord?”**
- **Count your blessings.**
- **Get biblical.**
- **Focus on Holy Spirit led transformation.**

# Principle #1

**Unfair situations and radical disruptions to our lives that occur completely outside of our control do not have to be perceived as something negative.**



# Principle #2

**Those on whom God's favor rests are typically ordinary people with ordinary lives who choose to make the most of each day by faithfully and intentionally offering their lives as a living sacrifice to God.**

# Principle #3

**God's arrival into our world in the form of a baby is meant to teach us that each human being is the result of God's purposeful, creative power. Each of us is willed, each of us is loved, and each of us is necessary.**

# Principle #4

**God chose the humblest birth for His entry into the world in order to teach us that the central value of life is a life committed to loving, obeying, and fulfilling the will of the Master.**

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**Our true worth and significance to God isn't based on where we come from, who our family is, how much money we have, our societal status, our successes, or even our mistakes; it is based on who we are in relationship to God.**

# Principle #4

**God chose the humblest birth for His entry into the world in order to teach us that the central value of life is a life committed to loving, obeying, and fulfilling the will of the Master.**

# Principle #5

**In the Kingdom of God, it is very common for the Master's work to go on quietly and unnoticed in what the world considers hidden and insignificant people and places.**



# Principle #6

**While there is much to learn about the ways of the Master through His arrival into the world, it is His successful incarnational mission that sets Him apart as the one true God and Master.**

# **His Incarnational Mission**

- **To become human and reveal God to humanity.**
- **To live a perfect, sinless, obedient life.**
- **To minister to us.**
- **To disciple us.**
- **To pay the eternal price for our sins by taking them on Himself.**

# **His Incarnational Mission**

- **To be raised from the dead for us.**
- **To offer us eternal life.**
- **To save us.**
- **To reconcile us to the Father.**
- **To live in us so that we can have the power to overcome all the enemies of God.**

# Principle #6

**While there is much to learn about the ways of the Master through His arrival into the world, it is His successful incarnational mission that sets Him apart as the one true God and Master.**

# Principle #7

**Who the baby Jesus was  
is NOTHING compared to who  
Christ the Eternal King and God  
in the flesh is!**

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