

wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger

Intro:

Matt 1:22; 2:5, 15, 17, 23

The birth of Christ was planned, purposeful and pictured since the beginning

Problem:

matt 1:18-25

Even though His birth was planned, purposeful and pictured since the beginning

He came in scandal (Jn 8:39-41 - born of sexual immorality)

Matt 2:1-6, 14-18, 22-23

He came in the midst of political strife

Lk 2:22-24

He came without advantages (lev 12:8) "if she cannot afford a lamb" -

Lk 2:15-16

He came without earthly fanfare

Lk 2:1-14

When the glory of God came, He came wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger...what does this have to do with exodus 26:1-14? Everything

Main Idea:

Behold the glory of God with us
wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger

Implication:

What does the tabernacle teach us about Christmas?

He came to take our place

Application:

He came to take our pride

God came wrapped in humility to save people wrapped in pride

Articles for further study:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/justin-taylor/what-does-the-tabernacle-symbolize/>

<https://www.gty.org/library/sermons-library/90-280/the-humility-and-exaltation-of-christ>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/the-meaning-of-the-manger>

<http://www.barabbas.com/sermons-book/?>

[sapurl=Lys0OTViL2xiL21pLy0OGdmcmdjP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==](http://www.barabbas.com/sermons-book/?sapurl=Lys0OTViL2xiL21pLy0OGdmcmdjP2JyYW5kaW5nPXRYdWUmZW1iZWQ9dHJ1ZQ==)

wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger

Text:

Behold the glory of God with us

Ex. 26:1 ¶ “Moreover, you shall make **the tabernacle (mishkan - dwelling place)** with ten curtains of **fine twined linen and blue and purple and scarlet yarns; you shall make them with cherubim skillfully worked into them.**

Ex. 26:2 The length of each curtain shall be twenty-eight cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits; all the curtains shall be the same size.

Ex. 26:3 Five curtains shall be coupled to one another, and the other five curtains shall be coupled to one another.

Ex. 26:4 And you shall make **loops of blue on the edge** of the outermost curtain in the first set. Likewise you shall make loops on the edge of the outermost curtain in the second set.

Ex. 26:5 **Fifty loops** you shall make on the one curtain, and fifty loops you shall make on the edge of the curtain that is in the second set; the loops shall be opposite one another.

Ex. 26:6 And you shall make **fifty clasps of gold**, and couple the curtains one to the other with the clasps, so that the tabernacle may be a single whole.

ex 25:8-9, 40 (context dwelling of God with Man)

ps 34:7 (surrounded by angels)

rev 5:11-12; 21:3-4 (a picture of heaven on earth)

jn 2:18-22 (a picture of Heaven coming to earth)

Jn 1:14, 18 (to tabernacle among us - mishkan - translated into greek skenon - dwelling place - same word as jn 1:14 in verb form)

if Jesus came to reveal God to us what do I learn about God that first Christmas and how does it relate to the tabernacle?

wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger

Ex. 26:7 ¶ “You shall also make curtains of **goats’ hair for a tent over the tabernacle**; eleven curtains shall you make.

Ex. 26:8 The length of each curtain shall be thirty cubits, and the breadth of each curtain four cubits. The eleven curtains shall be the same size.

Ex. 26:9 You shall couple five curtains by themselves, and six curtains by themselves, and the sixth curtain you shall double over at the front of the tent.

Ex. 26:10 You shall make fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in one set, and fifty loops on the edge of the curtain that is outermost in the second set.

Ex. 26:11 ¶ “You shall make **fifty clasps of bronze**, and put the clasps into the loops, and couple the tent together that it may be a single whole.

Ex. 26:12 And the part that remains of the curtains of the tent, **the half curtain that remains, shall hang over the back of the tabernacle.**

Ex. 26:13 And the extra that remains in the length of the curtains, the cubit on the one side, and the cubit on the other side, shall **hang over the sides of the tabernacle, on this side and that side, to cover it.**

Ex. 26:14 And you shall make for the tent **a covering of tanned rams’ skins and a covering of goatskins on top.**

Is 53:2 (not beautiful...but not ugly - like the tent plain, unadorned, ordinary - size and exterior)

“All you can see is the badger skins outside—the rough exterior of the tent. You say, ‘That tent is a poor place to be a temple; that gospel is a very simple affair.’ No doubt it is to you, but you never saw the silver sockets, you never saw the golden boards, you never saw the glory of the inside of the place lit up by the seven-branched candlesticks, and glorious with the presence of God. Brethren, redemption is our honor and delight” (spurgeon)

Mk 14:43-44(ordinary...no advantages)

Luke 3:21-23...38 (to look just like us - not you and I but humanity in general...)

heb 2:14-18 (because this is the true gift of the incarnation - the terrible trade pictured every day in the camp of Israel for thousands of years)

Rom 5:14-17 (it was grace pictured in that ordinary tent)

1 Cor 15:45-49 (it was hope pictured in that ordinary tent)

Phil 2:1-11 (even still He could have come to us in power and thunder -

He could have come to us with vengeance and blood...but He didn't.

He came to us in weakness and in vulnerability.

He came to us in the shadow of Herod's temple, in the shadow of Roman rule and in the shadow of a looming cross.

God could have come to us any way He liked...

but He chose to come wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger to take more than our place...

He came to take our pride...God came wrapped in humility to save a people wrapped in pride

isa 66:1-2 (that one didn't exist so He sent His Son from Heaven to a manger...for you- this is what the tent pictured)

God became a mammal (Behold the glory of God with us, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger)