

Cheltenham  
Ps Rob Buckingham  
20 & 21 Dec 2014

## **TANGIBLE KINGDOM (6)**

### **TOUCHY OR TOUCHABLE?**

#### **Message Notes**

Text: Exodus 19:9, 16-19; 20:18-19

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Hebrews 12:18-24

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The greatness of God – creator of the universe – terrified people. How was God going to let people know what He was really like?

He could only do this by becoming one of us. By taking on human form. That's what Christmas truly celebrates...

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## **The incarnation was prophesied in the Hebrew Scriptures**

Isaiah 7:14, *"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel."*

## **And fulfilled in the person of Jesus as recorded in the NT**

Matthew 1:22-23, *"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us.")*

John 1:14, *"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

Colossians 1:15, *"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation."*

1 John 1:1-2, *"What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and **touched** with our hands, concerning the Word of Life, and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us..."*

God came into this world as a tangible person in order to show us what He is really like. Jesus is now in heaven but He still has a body on earth – The Church. This body is supposed to be continuing Jesus' ministry of touching this world with grace and truth. How sad it is that sometimes the church is known as touchy rather than touchable...

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Don't be aloof; don't be separate; be touchable and touch others with God's love and grace. Make Incarnation a lifestyle!

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