

Introduction: Who is the Baby in the manger?

- A mythical character or a historical figure?
- A created being or the Creator Himself?
- Born of human parents or born of a virgin?
- A great teacher of truth or the Author of Truth?
- Subordinate to God or equal with God?
- A divine ideal or the one who bodily rose from the dead?
- A great religious leader of the Lord of all?

Question:

Who do you think He is? Why does it matter?

**The Christmas Story – From Heaven’s Perspective
and Three Questions that Demand an Answer**



Question #2: Who is He?

Answer: Colossians 1:15-20

Four questions to discover a person’s identity:

1. Where are you from?

Colossians 1:15

- He is the **image** of the invisible God.
- He is the **first-born** over all creation.

Truth: Jesus is the physical _____ of the invisible God.

Response: We can _____ God personally.

2. What do you do?

Colossians 1:16-17

- By Him, **all things** were created.
 - Things in heaven and on earth
 - Visible and invisible
 - Whether thrones, dominions, power, or authorities
 - He existed before all things.
 - All things were created by Him and through Him
 - He hold all thing together

Truth: Jesus is the _____ and _____ of everything.

Response: We can _____ Him completely.

What Child is This? (Part 2)

Who is He?
Colossians 1:15-20

3. What is your role?

Colossians 1:18

- He is the **Head** of the body, the Church.
- He is the **first-born** from the dead.
- He has **supremacy**, 1st place in everything.

Truth: Jesus is _____ over the Church.

Response: We must _____ Him fully.

4. What are your goals?

Colossians 1:19-20

- For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him.
 - To reconcile all things to Himself
 - Things on the earth
 - Things in heaven
 - Having made peace through His blood, shed on the cross.

Truth: Jesus is the **SOVEREIGN** _____ of time and eternity.

Response: We will _____ with Him **FOREVER**.

Questions for Application and Discussion:

1. How did today's teaching alter your view of the baby in the manger?
(Give an example if possible.)
2. What was a new truth or a new thought for you about Jesus' identity?
3. Which of the four "Responses" to the Truth most encourages you?
Challenges you? Why?
4. What practical ways could you (and friends and family) keep the Jesus you learned about today, central to your Christmas celebration this year?
(Make a list together, then choose 1 or 2 and put them into practice.)
5. Pause... spend some time worshipping the greatness of who Jesus *REALLY* is.