
New Year's Eve 2023

WHY GOD BECAME HUMAN

Ephesians 5:31-32

By Josh McNall

Introduction: We all have favorite songs. And some of us can relate to surprise of learning that a song we'd loved for years *wasn't* about the thing we thought. There was a deeper meaning hidden in plain sight.

Ephesians 5 is like that.

It is a passage (rightly) taken to be about ancient earthly households: husbands and wives; parents and children; masters and servants. But at end of this text (vss 31–32), Paul surprises us by saying that his “song” is about far more. He seeks to deepen our understanding of Christmas by telling us *why* God became human in the person of Jesus Christ: union with us—his church—as his beloved bride.

³¹ “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.” ³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church.

Today we'll see why union with Christ fulfills the deepest longing of the human heart. It makes the miracle of Christmas even better. And it transforms the way we see ourselves and our neighbors.

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