



# Pastor's Comments

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## Northampton Assembly of God

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### Why Jesus Came

Deputy Sheriff Lloyd Prescott was teaching a class for police officers in the Salt Lake City Library. During a break he stepped into the hallway, and saw a gunman forcing 18 hostages into a nearby room. Prescott, dressed in street clothes, fell in line with the group and became the nineteenth hostage. When the gunman announced the order in which hostages would be executed, Prescott identified himself as a police officer. A fight ensued, and Prescott, in self-defense, shot the gunman. All of the hostages were released unharmed. The officer placed himself at great risk, but **he was not thinking of himself, he was thinking about the danger the hostages were in.**

Like Prescott, **God dressed Himself as one of us and entered our world to save us! Saving us** is what the Incarnation is all about as Matthew 1:21-23 reveals, *"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name **JESUS**: for he shall save his people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, **God with us.**"* God came in the flesh **"to save that which was lost"** (Matthew 18:11) and **"to give his life a ransom for many"** (Mark 10:45). He **"gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us"** (Galatians 1:14). Jesus, Whose name means **Savior**, came because we were held hostage to sin and hopelessly in danger of eternal spiritual death. Romans 5:6 states, *"For when **we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly**"* John 3:16-17 proclaims the reason for the Incarnation, *"**For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.**"*