

Merry  
Christmas



# “In One Moment”

James A. Alter

In one moment, one seemingly insignificant measurement on the span of time, the Word was made flesh. In that moment undiminished Deity became humanity. What an incomprehensible thought!

In one moment the One for whom are all things and by whom are all things, became a thing<sup>1</sup>—like you and me—God with us. That one moment was not filled with pomp and ceremony. He made Himself of no reputation and took upon Him the form of a servant.<sup>2</sup> Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God was made a little lower than the angels<sup>3</sup> and it behooved Him to be made like His brethren<sup>4</sup>—that is, like you and me. We are uncomfortable thinking of Him as being *just like us*, but the King of the Jews sometimes had a dirty diaper. The Rose of Sharon sometimes needed a bath. The Altogether Lovely One sometimes needed to comb His hair, brush His teeth and wash His face. Did Joseph sometimes chide Him for not planing the board smoothly enough, or for not framing the window squarely enough? Did He have a big nose or funny teeth? I wonder if he had any cavities.<sup>5</sup>

In one moment non-corporeal became corporeal, spirit became flesh. The very God of very Gods entered the womb of a peasant girl. In one moment God took on skin and hair, teeth and toenails.

In one moment the invisible God became the visible, touchable, pierce-able, whip-able, nail-able, Emmanuel—God with us.<sup>6</sup>

In one moment divinity took on the garb of humanity so that depravity might be rendered savable. The handwriting that was written against us could now be blotted out. That blotting would not be accomplished with ink. It would not be accomplished with decrees from the courts of the finite. It would not be accomplished by the justice of the unjust. It would be accomplished, the handwriting was blotted out because in one moment the Word was made flesh.<sup>7</sup>

In one moment true grace appeared and we received grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.<sup>8</sup>

In one moment the personification of truth was revealed and now we no longer stumble in ignorance. The truth of Christ is like the light of the sun multiplied by infinity, in Him is no darkness at all. He is the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.<sup>9</sup>

When the Word of God says that the Prince of Heaven humbled Himself, what it is saying is simply: God with us.

In one moment, God became a man. The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.<sup>10</sup>

In one moment, God became a man, fully man, though sinless, together with undiminished deity. Oh, Praise His name for that one moment!

<sup>1</sup> Luke 1:35, <sup>2</sup> Philippians 2:7, <sup>3</sup> Hebrews 2:9, <sup>4</sup> Hebrews 2:17, <sup>5</sup> Hebrews 4:15, <sup>6</sup> I John 3:5, <sup>7</sup> Colossians 2:14,

<sup>8</sup> John 1:16,17, <sup>9</sup> John 1:9, <sup>10</sup> John 1:14