



Today's Message

Date: December 20, 2020
Speaker: Pastor Steven Thomas
Title: ***The Truth We Confess***

Text: 1 Timothy 3:14–16 (ESV)

¹⁴ I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, ¹⁵ if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. ¹⁶ Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated by the Spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations,
believed on in the world,
taken up in glory.

Introduction: Today we commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our sermon text refers to the great event, *He was manifested in the flesh*. This statement lies in a verse that is the high point of the first letter Paul wrote to Timothy. It deals with local church issues—function, relationships, mission. At the heart of it all lies our confession of Christ. The church is built on the foundation of Christ.

Today's take-home truth: We, the church, confess Christ.

I. Christ anchors our faith. 16

A. As to his coming,

1. We believe in his *incarnation*.

2. We believe in his *resurrection*.

3. We believe in his *exaltation*.

B. As to his continuing work,

1. We believe in his *mission*.

2. We believe in his *victory*.

3. We believe in his *intercession* and *return*.

II. Christ defines our roles. 15a

III. Christ fuels our mission. 15b