



What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians today?

Knowledge

- Christmas is a Christian festival celebrating the birth of Jesus.
- Christians believe that Jesus was God incarnate, born on Earth in the flesh.
- The Nativity story contains symbols to suggest the importance of Jesus' birth.
- Jesus is seen as a gift from God to all of humankind.
- Christians believe that God came to Earth incarnate to show people how to lead good lives, forgive them for the things they do wrong and prove to them (through resurrection) that there is life after death.
- Many people celebrate Christmas with a mixture of religious and secular traditions.
- Religious Christmas celebrations are linked to the Nativity. Secular Christmas celebrations have developed from many different traditions.
- Many churches hold Christingle services; each part of the Christingle represents an aspect of Christian belief.



Vocabulary

Christingle = 'Christ Light', a symbolic object used to celebrate Christmas

God = the Christian supreme being, creator and ruler of the universe

gospels = the record of Jesus' life in the first four books of the New Testament

Jesus = God in the flesh (in human form), known as the son of God, the Saviour or Messiah (chosen one)

incarnate = in human form, derived from the Latin 'in flesh'

the incarnation = the concept that Jesus was God on Earth in human form

Nativity = the story of Jesus' birth, told in the gospels of Matthew and Luke

Saviour = Jesus, who saved people from sin so that they can be close to God.

secular = not linked to religion

