

By Shyam Sundar Goswami

The Advent of Jesus Christ

The coming of the Christ can only touch those who are able to see it in a spiritual way - and do not consider his birth only as a conventional festival. For certainly the Christ was a man of human shape; yet he was not as we are. For in him Godliness was concentrated to such a high degree, that we do not know or understand it at all, since we do not know or understand God. Yet we cannot entirely dismiss God, though we often verbally try to do so; that is actually not possible. And what is the characteristic feature of that Godliness? Most of us have our weaknesses and lusts, for which we do a great deal in our life, by all forms of sensual pleasures, selfishness and narrowness in thoughts and actions. But in the Christ we have a man. Who was untouched by selfishness, meanness, sensual pleasures, or the like. Therefore that which comes from him is so special and characteristic in his own way, that it - even in his time - was not understood, except by a few; and now, 2.000 years later, it is still not understood, though people go to church and many deliver their lip-service. But where do we find the true realization of the Godliness he expressed? -If we do not have that in ourselves, we cannot rightly understand it in him either. So that day he was coming into the world generally touches us very little. Yet it was such a great moment when it happened. If we really could understand it, we would bow our heads to that great Personage, whose sole characteristics was the expression of Godliness.