

The Birth of Jesus Christ  
Galatians 4:4-6

Introduction

- A. The Incarnation reminds us that Christianity is rooted in the Person of Jesus Christ and the historical events surrounding His Person.
- B. Some events in history stand out as mountain peaks – the Incarnation towers over them all.
- C. While it may not have been the purpose of frail men to divide time by the birth of the Son of God -- the Incarnation is worthy of such attention

I. The Preparation for His Birth -- "But when the fulness of the time was come. . .

- A. As related to the nations of the world.
  - 1. Nations were caused to rise and fall to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ.
  - 2. He is "The Governor of all the nations of the world." Psalm 22:28.
- B. As related to the political and social movements.
  - 1. To prepare for His coming the world was united under Roman rule, with one language, and with the rich culture of Jewish and Grecian heritage.
  - 2. He is "The desire of all nations," Haggai 2:7.
- C. As related to languages.
  - 1. Hebrew with its stability of word meanings and poetic parallelisms and Greek with its exactness as the trade language of the day all made it possible for the message of the Incarnation to be understood.
  - 2. Jesus Christ is the "Living Word," Rev. 19:13.
- D. As related to religion\*
  - 1. "A Western-Eastern religious chaos, without parallel, had arisen. The ancient religions went spiritually bankrupt" Eric Sauer, The Dawn . . . Redemption, page. 182.
  - 2. Into this religious vacuum Jesus Christ was born as "The life," John 14:6.
- E. As related to religious movements.
  - 1. Pharisees, Essenes, Zealots, and similar groups to the Qumran sects all had an intense Messianic expectation.
  - 2. Jesus Christ was born as the Messiah, John 4:26.
- F. As related to philosophy.
  - 1. "No new thought, nor original principle supervened . . . In Neo-Platonism, therefore, ancient philosophy commits suicide." W.T. Stace, A Critical History of Greek Philosophy, pp. 369,377.
  - 2. By the Incarnation Jesus Christ was born as the "Truth," John 14:6.
- G. As related to nature.
  - 1. In the Star of Bethlehem even, nature herself was moved to prepare for His coming, Matthew 2:1,2.
  - 2. The Child born in Bethlehem was the Creator, John 1:3.

(Observation: all time and space and facets of life were manipulated to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ, but when He came, "There was no room for them in the inn." Luke 2:7.

II. The Motivation behind His Birth -- "God sent forth His Son . . ."

- A. The Incarnation was the result of divine initiative.
- B. "God so loved that He gave His only Begotten Son . . ." John 3:16.
- C. It's beyond the wildest dream -- God has become a member of the human race!

III. The Description of His Birth -- "Made of a woman, made under the law . . ."

- A. As related to His humanity -- born of Mary.
- B. As related to His office -- born to assume responsibility for our broken law. (Romans 3:10,23,31; 5:19; 8:1-3; 10:4.)

IV. The Purpose of His Birth "To redeem them . . . adoption of sons."

- A. As related to deliverance -- redemption.
- B. As related to privilege -- adoption.

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