

Why Was Jesus Born?

Heb 2:9-18 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For both He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying: "I will declare Your name to My brethren; in the midst of the assembly I will sing praise to You." And again: "I will put My trust in Him." And again: "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me." Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham. Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

As is my custom I take great pleasure to speak of our Lord and His birth in Bethlehem at this time of the year. I would again remind you that December 25 may or may not be the birth night of our Lord; in fact I think it rather doubtful. Why then do we observe this season as a time of reflection on the birth of our Lord, we do so because in history the church has set it aside as a time of remembrance of our Lord's birth. I think it good to remember His birth before the whole world because it will leave the whole of mankind without excuse for their neglect of Christ and His purpose in coming. Whether Christ was born at this time of the year or whenever matters not for what we do know is that there was a real night in history in the city of Bethlehem when a baby was born of the Virgin Mary, wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger who was Christ the Lord. Earth itself was oblivious to His birth as our Lord came silently and humbly to earth. But heaven was not oblivious to His birth, because God had commanded all the host of heaven to worship Him on that night. And not all of mankind was unaware for to a small number of Shepherds watching over their flock in the surrounding hills Bethlehem an angel proclaimed the good news of the Savior's birth, and after his pronouncement a great host of heaven's messengers gave praise to God proclaiming, "Glory to God in the highest, and on and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Luke 2:14) I would ask this simple question this morning, "Why was Jesus born?" Why was Jesus made a little lower than the angels that sang of His birth that night?

A. But we see Jesus made a little lower than the angels

1. It matters not how the world sees Jesus
 - a. They see Him through eyes of unbelief
 - (1) As a threat to their standing in the world

John 11:47-48 "What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation."

- (2) Or they see Jesus as one over whom they have authority and power

John 19:10 Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?"

- b. They see Him as they want Him to be
2. But we see Jesus as He has revealed Himself in Holy Scripture
 - a. Not in a sentimental manner as a baby in a manger
 - b. But as God manifest in the flesh

Heb 1:6 But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him."

3. One who is far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. Eph 1:21

B. Why did He come, being made a little lower than the angels

1. Here in this passage we learn why Jesus Christ came into the world - *for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone*
2. This and this alone is what the birth of the Christ is all about
 - a. He did not come as the great example
 - b. He did not come to transform culture, or establish a worldly political kingdom, or to form a more perfect society
2. When we ask why was Jesus born we can answer:
 - a. He came to reveal God to us

Heb 1:2 “. . . has in these last days spoken to us by His Son

Heb 1:3 “. . . who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person

- b. To teach truth

John 17:8 For I have given to them the words which You have given Me

1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true;

- c. To bring peace between man and God

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you;

Rom 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

- d. To reveal the power of God by healing the sick and raising the dead

Nicodemus - No man can do these miracles unless God is with Him

3. But there is one primary reason, primary purpose, He came to suffer death – that He might taste death for everyone

- a. This is not an unlimited atonement in that He died to save all men
- b. Rather it speaks of a most sufficient atonement that all who come to Him in repentance and faith will be saved from the wrath of God
- c. This is why John could say of Him, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”
- d. That sin issue that separates us from God has been perfectly removed by death of Christ

Matt 20:28 “The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

4. He came that He through death might conquer death

- a. That he might destroy that one who had the power of death – wounded the serpent’s head

He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

- b. He has released His elect who were subject to the bondage of death

1 Cor 15:54-55 "Death is swallowed up in victory." "O Death, where is your sting? O Grave, where is your victory?"

1 Cor 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

4. He came that through His death He might bring many sons to glory

- a. When Christ comes at His second advent in the glory of the angels of heaven we read:

Col 3:4 When Christ who is our life appears, then **you also will appear with Him in glory.**

2 Cor 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory,

- b. He has become the captain of our salvation
- c. Paul’s prayer for the church is that we might know:

Eph 1:18-21 “. . . what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

5. Too often Christ is only seen in His humility

- a. Seen as the sweet little baby laid in a manger
- b. Seen as that one who was spit upon, mocked and crucified

6. Let us present Christ before the world, indeed as that one that humble Himself, but let us also present Him before the world as that one who is coming in power and great glory

- a. As that one before whom every knee will bow
- b. As that one before whom everyone will confess that He is indeed Lord of lords and King of kings

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

CONCLUSION: Means? By the grace of God

For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves it is the gift of God lest any man should boast

By His unmerited favor – not because of any good He was in us

Why was He born? - - - Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.