

## Why Did Jesus Christ Come into this World?

1 Tim 1:12-17 <sup>12</sup> And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry, <sup>13</sup> although I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent man; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. <sup>14</sup> And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. <sup>16</sup> However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. <sup>17</sup> Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Once again I would remind us that we do not know that Jesus was born on December 25. We do not observe this day as the actual birth day of our Lord, but the actual date is not important, what is important is that there was a definite day, an actual moment in time when our Savior was born in Bethlehem and laid in a manger. There was a night in the history of mankind when an angel appeared to certain shepherds watching their flock by night in a field amidst the hills surrounding Bethlehem and announced to them the good news of the birth of the Savior. And immediately after the angel told them that there was born to them that very day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord a great heavenly host joined in praise proclaiming, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward man." This good news is what the whole of the Bible is all about, it is about God's purpose and plan to provide for lost sinners a Redeemer who would save His people from the wrath of God. Thus we read this proclamation from the pen of Saint Paul, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." This is what the birth of Jesus Christ is all about. The birth of Jesus was the beginning of the fulfilling of all the Old Testament prophecies regarding the promise of hope and comfort of Israel. This is why Simeon that day in the temple could take the infant Jesus in his arms and say, "Lord, now You are letting your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." (Luke 2:29-32) For our text this morning let us look at verse 15, Thus Paul, in a very real sense, sums up the whole of the Old Testament when he writes these words, *this is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners*. There are two questions I would ask this morning; first why did Paul say this was a faithful saying worthy of all acceptance, secondly what did Jesus do to save sinners. The answer to which will explain why Jesus was born that night.

### A. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance

1. A saying that can be trusted for it is a proclamation of truth revealed to Paul by the Holy Spirit, from God who cannot lie.
  - a. It is not the mere opinion of man
  - b. All scripture is given by inspiration, that is, is God breathed, God spoken (cf. 2 Tim. 3:15)
  - c. All scripture is profitable for instruction and for correction
  - d. Fully and completely furnished with all truth necessary to salvation
  - e. It is trustworthy for it is a promise given by God and heaven and earth will pass away but His Word cannot fail
2. This truth that Christ Jesus came in the world to save sinners, is a revelation worthy of acceptance
  - a. That is, it is a promise that can be trusted
  - b. Put your eternal soul safe in this promise
  - c. How valuable is your soul?
  - d. The fact that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners is the most comforting and hopeful words the sinner can hear

### B. What then did Jesus do to save sinners?

*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.***

1. First we learn He came into the world in order that He might redeem sinful man
  - a. When we read that He came into the world, it tells us that He existed before He came into the world
  - b. Prior to His humiliation we know that He was equal in glory, honor and power with the Father before the world was
  - c. Remind you of the words He prayed in His High Priestly prayer - Glorify me with the glory which I had with You before the world was
2. It is imperative that one understand that it was God Himself, God the Son who gave His life a ransom
  - a. A ransom is the price paid for the release of a captive
  - b. Justice demanded a full payment of suffering the wrath of God
  - c. He who knew no sin, became sin for us – (2 Cor 5:21)
  - d. In so doing He paid the price that we could not pay

3. Jesus before His incarnation was truly God the eternal Son who left His throne of glory, humbled Himself that He might ransom unworthy sinners such as you and me

*Phil 2:5-9 Christ Jesus, who, being in the form (the very appearance of the glory) of God, did not consider His equality with God something to be held on to, but **made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.** And being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.***

- a. Made Himself of no reputation taking the form of a slave
  - b. Humbled Himself and became flesh that He might be obedient to the very death of the cross
  - c. In so doing paid the ransom to redeem us from the wrath of God we so rightly deserve
4. This is why Jesus came into this world
    - a. One must never separate the fact of the birth of our Savior from the reason for which He came into this world
    - b. Do you remember the proclamation given by the angel to the shepherds?

Luke 2:11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a **Savior**, who is **Christ** the **Lord**.

5. Now do you see why this is a truth worthy of reception
  - a. It is the greatest gift ever given because it was the greatest payment ever made
  - b. If you have not received this gift by faith, I beg of you to do it now
  - c. There is no other means of escape from the wrath of God

*Acts 4:12 Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.*

*1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit*

6. This is the reason Christ Jesus came into the world, He came into the world to save sinners
  - a. And who could understand that truth more than the Apostle Paul
  - b. He refers here to himself as the chief of sinners
  - c. He had persecuted the church of God

*Acts 8:3 As for Saul, he made havoc of the church, entering every house, and dragging off men and women, committing them to prison.*

- d. Although he made havoc, causing great harm to the church of Jesus Christ, yet God in mercy made Saul the persecutor of the church into a Paul a pastor in His church
- e. The savage wolf destroying the flock became the shepherd protecting and caring for the flock
- f. Why Paul speaks of the exceedingly abundance of the grace of God - *And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.*

Conclusion: This is what the birth of the Babe in Bethlehem is all about

It is about the love of God exemplified in the most marvelous manner

It is about the grace of God that was exceedingly abundant that provided salvation for the unworthy sinner in a just and loving manner

It is love perfected for no greater love can one exhibit than to lay down his life for a neighbor

Yet His love was even greater for while we were yet sinners, His enemies, Jesus laid down His life for us

While Paul was breathing out threatenings and slaughter Jesus provided for such a sinner so great a salvation  
It is perfectly just because the price has been paid in full

In Christ scripture tells us "*Mercy and truth have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed.*" (Ps 85:10)

Trust that you will walk out of this worship hour with a greater awareness as to why Jesus came into the world

Trust that if you are now one who does trust in Christ your faith in God and love toward God has been strengthened

Trust that if you have not yet come in repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ you will do so before you leave this worship hour this morning

Remembering, Christ Jesus was born in great humility in Bethlehem to save sinners

I must ask, if you are outside of faith in Jesus Christ in the face of such love, "Why would you choose to die in your sins?"

For herein are the greatest words of hope and comfort; *Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners*