

The Birth of Christ, a World Changing Moment in History

Gal 4:1-7 4 Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman. Jesus the Christ had a real birthday. Oh I care not that it was probably not the 25th of December. The actual day does not matter, but that the birth took place on an actual day in history is of major importance for all of mankind. That this is a real happening in history is of major significance, the magnitude of which cannot be measured in human thought. If the birth of Christ did not take place on that night in Bethlehem then we are without hope and without the possibility of comfort. But the Christ was born. The Old Testament is a book of history. It is a message of the promise of a coming Redeemer. In fairy tells you hear the phrase, "Once upon a time" and such wording is used because it speaks of a time that is nebulous, imprecise and uncertain because it speaks of an event that was made up. Fairy tales refer to a time that is not related to reality whereas in Scripture we read, "And it came to pass". Such wording speaks of the certainty of the events of Old Testament history and this is important for the Bible is not a "fairy tell" or a book of mythology, but a book of history, of actual events that took place in time. But that in the fullness of time God sent forth His Son

A. In the fullness of time

1. It had been approximately 4000 years since the first promise of a coming Seed of woman that would crush the Serpent's head
 - a. The first promise was an announcement made to the Serpent
 - b. It would be a deadly blow to the serpent
 - c. But it would also include a suffering of the Seed of woman
2. It had been about 2000 years since the promise was made to Abraham

*Gen 22:18 **In your seed** all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."*

3. It had been approximately 600 years since the promise of a child born of a virgin by the prophet Isaiah - Isa. 7:14
4. But God is not slack concerning His promises as some men count slackness.
 - a. It was but 4 days or 4 watches in the night from the promise in the garden
 - b. It was but 2 days or as 2 watches in the night from the promise to Abraham
 - c. And it was but very short time from the promise given us by Isaiah
5. In the fullness of time, in God's perfect time
 - a. The time in which God in His infinite wisdom and counsel had decreed
 - b. That time which God had purposed from all eternity
 - c. We need not speculate as to why at this time, the secret things belong to God, but it was a time when Rome had opened the door westward and had provided a common language to a large area of the world.

B. Sent forth His Son

1. The promised Son of Psalm 2

Ps 2:7-8 "I will declare the decree: the Lord has said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You. Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession.

- a. That Seed of David that is to rule over the nations
- b. That Seed of Abraham in whom all the nations of the earth would be blessed
- c. That Seed who is the Desire of nations

Hag 2:6-7 "For thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Once more (it is a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with glory,' says the Lord of hosts.

2. That one in whom "all the fullness of Godhead dwells in bodily form" (Col. 2:9).
3. It is Him before whom the angels of God worship - *But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him." Heb 1:6*
4. It is Him of whom the Scripture declare, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom. (Hebrews 1:8).
5. It is Him to whom belongs all power, riches, wisdom, might, honor, glory, and blessing (Revelation 5:12).

C. Born of a woman

1. A virgin birth - a miraculous birth - with God nothing is impossible
2. Born of a woman - made in the flesh - The Word became flesh and dwelt among us
 - a. Fulfilling all the promises of the coming Seed of woman
 - b. By this means God could come down to us in the flesh without inheriting the fallen nature of Adam

Luke 1:35-36 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

- c. Jesus was truly God, truly man, God manifest in the flesh (1 Tim 3:16)

D. Made under the law - born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law

1. Subject to the law but perfect in the keeping of that law
2. Truly God and truly man that He might fulfill the righteous requirements of the law
 - a. He had to come in the likeness of sinful flesh that He might fulfill the righteous requirement of the law as a man
 - b. He had to accomplish this perfect obedience in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fulfilled in us

Rom 8:3-5 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

CONCLUSION: To redeem those under the law

Without such redemption we would have no hope

Rom 3:19-20 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

In the fullness of time - the Lord God of Israel has visited and redeemed His people

"Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people, and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of His servant David, as He spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets. Luke 1:68-70

Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.