

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

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Why was Jesus Born?

Introduction

It is now more than 50 years ago since Jean, my wife, told me she was going to have a baby. At first it made little difference in the home but then something happened from about the seventh to ninth month. I did not understand at first, but everything had to be put in its proper place. The house was kept immaculately clean. To me Jean was so fussy. Then there was the obvious, we needed a pram and Jean got a "Silver Cross", it was beautiful, white and ever so springy. There were diapers to be gotten, baby blankets, toys, bottles and formulas. It was all preparation for the baby! When the little girl arrived, everything was in place.

The Coming Of The Lord To This Earth

The birth of the Lord was not at a point of time when God arbitrarily decided with a "now is as good as any time" attitude. It was at a precise moment in earth's history. Paul wrote to the saints at Galatia, "When the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law" (Gal. 4:4). Every iota of preparation had been made for the arrival of this special baby. God had made preparation by the prophecies which were given to authenticate and enable people to recognize His person, and also by the contributions of the non Jewish world and the preparation of the Jewish world.

One of the many questions which arises is, "Why did the Son of God come into this world?" Why would He come into a world so totally and vehemently opposed to Him? He was not wanted to such an extent that before He was two years of age, Herod sought to destroy Him by killing all the children two years old and under (Matt. 2:13-16). "Why would the birth of a baby in Bethlehem anger Herod so intensely?" It was because of the birth of a baby born King of the Jews (Matt. 2:2). In Herod's mind it was a distinct threat to his kingship. This is the world the Lord was born into. What and why would He leave the place of bliss and love to come into this world knowing He would be hated, rejected, spat on, crowned with thorns, nailed to a cross, and endure the indignity of mob rule crying for his blood?

In reading the scriptures the Spirit of God has given a number of reasons the Lord came into this world:

- a) Because of man's sin, God was aware of the total inability of man to get right with God. Possibly when Adam and Eve sinned there was awakened in them for the first time a conscience which pierced like a spear into their hearts and minds. God had given them a conscience but it had never been awakened until they sinned. The problem with conscience is it fluctuates with how it judges a situation which depends on the relationship of the individual to the one who has done wrong. If they are a friend then the wrong done will not be so dreadful but if it is a disliked individual, the censorship will be more severe.

- b) At Sinai God added to the inward conviction of conscience a written law. To this, man gave his full endorsement (Ex. 24:7). This seemed very good and helpful for with the giving of the law there was a standard which was consistent. By considering it, an individual could determine the correct behaviour.
- c) Poor humanity found themselves striving to live by the law, but it was impossible. The law was like a spot light, zeroing in on every sin. Furthermore, instead of giving a measure of peace by knowing what was right and what was wrong, man discovered that such knowledge did not help but made matters worse. The law never gave peace or satisfaction. Man failed, and even though he did his best, he failed.
- d) God was aware of the inadequacy of the religious system which He Himself had given. That is the law, the sacrifices, and the various moral responsibilities for it was a system which:
 - i) Could never remove the burden of a guilty conscience (Heb. 9:9).
 - ii) Could never take away sins (Heb. 10:4, 11).
 - iii) Could never deal with the subject of man's sinful nature and addiction to sin (Rom. 7:15, 19).
- e) The sacrifices they offered:
 - i) They never knew what they were doing. The animal did not know it was an offering for sins.
 - ii) They died but they never suffered for sins. The animal was killed before it was put on the altar. Christ was alive when He bore the judgment to be executed for our sins. It was after He had suffered and cried "It is finished" that He died (Jn. 19:30).
 - iii) They could never satisfy the claims of the Holy God (Heb. 10:6, 8).
 - iv) They brought sins to remembrance (Heb. 10:3).

Why did God send His Son into this world?

God longed to bring man back into full fellowship with Himself. He wanted to enjoy the fellowship of humanity and them to enjoy Him. Like a parent watching with delight and anticipating with joy the happiness of their children when opening gifts, so God gave to His creatures the wonderful gifts of freedom, fellowship and the privilege and delight of discovery (Gen. 1:28). How would a parent feel if the child not only took the lovely gifts and trashed them and berated them for not giving them everything. God gave man a whole world to enjoy, a gentleman farmer, no weeds or thorns, and all man had to do was not to eat the fruit of one tree but could enjoy the fruit of perhaps hundreds of others. Today we are aware of 2000 different fruits and being told you could eat 1999 but not of one particular tree, surely that would not be so hard to do! Yet, that is exactly what man did and he deliberately disobeyed God's single command. Fellowship was broken but God longed to bring man back into fellowship with Himself. The remedy was to have a sacrifice which would endure the penalty for the crimes of humanity and offer with a full heart reconciliation (Rom. 5:10) and peace with God (Rom. 5:1).

God sent His Son into this world to:

- i) Do the will of God (Heb. 10:9) by offering Himself to be an offering for sins (Rom. 8:3). His offering was to be to such a degree of perfection that it was sufficient for all the sins (1 Jn. 1:7) of the whole world (1 Jn. 2:2). Because of the vicarious sufferings of Christ when God laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isa. 53:6), God offers to all humanity eternal life (Jn. 6:32-33), the complete putting away of sin's penalty (Heb. 9:26), the gift of abundant life to those who believe (Jn. 10:10), and save the whosoever from the penalty of eternal banishment in Hell (Jn. 3:17).

For we humans, (being naturally selfish), the most important reason the Lord came into this world was to take our place for the executing of the divine punishment for our sins. It was each of us who stood blatantly taking His Name in vain, it was us who had no time for the sacrifice of Christ when He bore our sins, it was us who thought nothing of evil thoughts, fits of temper, gossip, being hurtful to others, and perhaps the worst of all - trying to nullify or at least lessen the punishment for our sinful actions, speech, and thoughts by going to church and doing good things. We failed to see this was a most dreadful insult to God and the sacrifice of His Son. In striving to get to heaven by our own ways we are telling God straight to His face that He was a liar, for God said:

"He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (1 Jn. 5:10-13).

We are insulting God and demeaning the sufferings of Christ for by our religious endeavours we are saying, “The work and sufferings of Christ were very good but they were not enough, I have to do my bit to fill up that which His work is deficient”. What an insult to the Lord of truth who cried, “It is finished” (Jn. 19:30-31). *Illustration:* When I decorated wedding cakes and had finished a cake, it meant nothing else was needed, it was “finished”. That is why Christ came, to finish the work God gave Him and that was to endure the full penalty for the sins of every individual so that every one who depends fully on Him is assured of Heaven and living in full fellowship with God for all eternity.

That is why He came!

. . . . Rowan Jennings



www.scripturaltruths.org

e-mail: scripturaltruths1@shaw.ca

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