

THE REAL JESUS

As we approach the Christmas Season it seems that we are surrounded by a tide of tradition and marketing.

We have our myths (movies such as Elf, It's a wonderful Life, etc...)

We have our food (sugary snacks)

We have our gift giving (we often call our gift giving tradition "having Christmas")

- "Where are you going to have (celebrate) Christmas"

We have our TRADITIONS

- Gathering in parents homes...

Some people "don't celebrate Christmas" because December 25th is not the date of his birth.

They are upset that we are celebrating the birth of Jesus in December

THEY POINT OUT THAT...

- Jesus was probably born in the fall
 - o Jesus real birthday – the best guess is September 11th (3 B.C.)
- The origin of the December 25th Holiday is Pagan
 - o It's a **celebration of the Winter Solstice** – The shortest day of the year (longest night)
 - o December 25th USED TO BE the Winter Solstice (This year it is Dec. 22nd)
 - **The darkest day of the year**
 - The original holiday was a widespread pagan phenomenon (when all were pagans)
 - It was a FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS
 - Sacrifices were offered so that THE DARKNESS would not continue
 - Prayers were offered so that LIGHT WOULD COME INTO THE WORLD

My opinion:

1. It's ALWAYS GOOD to celebrate the Birth of Jesus

2. The DARKEST DAY in the year is probably the BEST time to celebrate the coming of Jesus!!

- The Bible says
 - o John 1:4-10 (NIV) In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. [5] The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.... [9] The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. [10] He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

I want to give you the original script about the REAL JESUS

- I want to talk to you about the REAL Story that happened BEFORE THE BIRTH OF JESUS
- I want to give you scriptures to read and meditate on during the holidays
 - o So that you can understand who Jesus really is
 - o So that you can understand the incredible plan of God that brought Jesus into the world
 - o So that you can step out of the tide of materialism and get in the Word of God
 - **I want to give you something to think about other than...**
 - **Food, sweets and presents**

Three passages in the Bible give us specific about the JESUS – the ETERNAL WORD OF GOD

- **Before Mary named Him Jesus, THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT HE WAS THE WORD OF GOD**
- **BEFORE HE WAS THE SON OF MARY – HE WAS THE LOGOS – THE LIVING SON OF GOD!!**

THE BIBLE SAYS

Jhn 1:1-5 (NKJV) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. [2] He was in the beginning with God. [3] All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that

was made. [4] In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. [5] And the light shines in the darkness, and the **darkness did not comprehend it**.

- Jesus Is God
 - o Jesus is the expression of God = THE WORD OF GOD
 - o Jesus was FULLY GOD = BEGOTTEN by GOD- But God all the same
- ALL THINGS WERE MADE BY HIM
 - o Gen 1:3 (NKJV) Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.
 - JESUS IS THE WORD OF GOD
 - THE ONLY BEGOTTEN OF GOD
- IN HIM IS LIFE
 - o This life is the light of human
 - o The darkness cannot overcome it

PAUL'S CONCISE SUMMARY

Rom 11:36 (NIV) For **from him** and **through him** and **for him** are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

- JESUS IS..
 - o THE **Source**: of All creation
 - o THE **Agency**: the means by which all was created
 - o THE **Purpose**: that All the world exists
 - The world exists for Jesus

THE BEST DESCRIPTION OF WHO JESUS REALLY IS...

Col 1:15-17 (NIV) The Son is the **image of the invisible God**, the **firstborn** over all creation. [16] For **in him all things were created**: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. [17] **He is before all things**, and **in him all things hold together**.

- GOD IN THE FLESH (image of what is invisible)
 - o Jesus said, "He who has seen me, has seen the father..." John 14:9
 - Jesus confirmed this
- FIRST BORN
 - o Only Begotten Son
 - God Spoke – The Living Word of God was manifest
- IN HIM ALL THINGS WERE CREATED
 - o The Spoken/Active/Living Word of God CREATED EVERYTHING
- HE IS BEFORE ALL THINGS
 - o Predates all creation – PROGENITOR OF ALL CREATION
 - Source of all LIFE
 - "IN HIM WAS LIFE..."
- IN HIM ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER
 - o I cannot explain this...
 - o I only know that when I was in school, my science teacher told us that they cannot figure out the behavior of atoms.
 - Atomic structure = should not stay together..
 - Subatomic particles in the nucleus of each atom are of similar charge and should repel each other
 - o **ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE...**
 - **The Living Word of God is the Universal Power that Holds are subatomic particles together**

WHY DID THE LIVING WORD OF GOD PUT ON FLESH?

God made it so that **ONLY HUMANS** can reign on the earth...

Gen 1:26-28 (NKJV) Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." [27] So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. [28] Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply; replenish the earth and subdue it; have dominion over** the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

- Created in His image (functions: arms, legs, eyes, intelligence, speech)
 - o Shape and function
- Created in His likeness (Need for praise, creativity, companionship, community, storytelling, ritual)
 - o Character (culture and values)
- GIVEN DOMINION OVER THE EARTH!
 - o Humans have received His delegated Authority
 - Rom 13:1 (NKJV) ... There is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.
- COMMISSION – delegation of Authority
A SPECIFIC COMMISSION!!
 - o Be fruitful – Create bounty
 - o Multiply = Grow in Number
 - o Fill = Replenish, care for
 - o Subdue the earth = bring under your management
 - o Dominion over the animals= Rule over all of the creatures
- HUMANITY IS NOW IN CHARGE ON THE PLANET
 - o Freewill is established
 - We are living in the age of Human Reign on the earth
 - Age of "formless and void"
 - Age of man
 - Millennial Reign of Jesus
- Authority is in our hands
 - o We have a choice of partnership
 - We agree/partner with God = He steps in to participate
 - We agree/partner with Enemy = He steps in to participate
 - Luk 4:5-7 (NIV) The devil led him (Jesus) up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. [6] And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. [7] If you worship me, it will all be yours."

The Plan of God to **REDEEM THE WORLD**

Isa 59:14-20 (NKJV) Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter. [15] So truth fails, And he who departs from evil makes himself a prey. Then the LORD saw it, and it displeased Him That there was no justice. [16] **He saw that there was no man,** And wondered that **there was no intercessor;** Therefore **His own arm brought salvation for Him;** And His own righteousness, it sustained Him. [17] For He put on righteousness as a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation on His head; He put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, And was clad with zeal as a cloak. [18] According to what they have done, so will he repay wrath to his enemies and retribution to his foes; he will repay the islands their due. [19] From the west, people will fear the name of the LORD, and from the rising of

the sun, they will revere his glory. For he will come like a pent-up flood that the breath of the LORD drives along. [20] "The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the LORD.

- The Lord sees
 - o the Injustice
 - o No righteousness – Right relationship/standing
 - o Failure of truth
 - o Inequity among humanit
- THEREFORE
 - o God in Human form = Jesus
 - Sustained by righteousness
 - Helmet of salvation
 - Garments of vengeance
 - Cloak of zeal
 - o Jesus
 - Will repay according to what has been done
- Response: Humanity will...
 - o Fear the name of the Lord
 - o Revere His fullness (glory) – See Him and know him as Lord
- THE REDEEMER
 - o Will come a like a pent up flood
 - o Will come as the breath of God
 - o Will come to those who repent of their sins (in Israel)

Our Condition – God’s Plan

Gal 4:3-5 (NKJV) Even so we, when we were children, were in **bondage under the elements** of the world. [4] But when the **fullness of the time had come**, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, **born under the law**, [5] **to redeem those who were under the law**, that we might **receive the adoption as sons**.

- We are like Children
- We are in bondage to the elemental spirits
- Fullness of Time
 - o Kairos Time
- God has ALWAYS had a covenant people on the earth
 - o Covenant of Eden – direct fellowship with God, sin seperated
 - o Covenant of Noah – Promise of protection – Eat meat
 - o Covenant of Abraham – All of the nations of the earth will be blessed
 - o Covenant of Moses – The Law – The covenant with Israel
 - The Temple – restricted access to the presence of God
 - By Sacrafices and Priesthood
 - o David’s Tent
 - David had a ONE ROOM temple
 - o THE NEW COVENANT IN JESUS
 - Jesus however, is not a MAN only
 - FULLY MAN – a man Who has given place to the fullness of god
 - FULLY GOD – a God who has laid aside all of His Divinity
- BORN UNDER THE LAW
 - o God is playing by the rules (not skipping steps)
- TO REDEEM THOSE UNDER THE COVENANT OF MOSES (The Law)
 - o Covenant of Law, sin and sacrifice
- ADOPTION AS SONS

- Not at children, not as friends
- SONS and HEIRS OF GOD

The Mission of Jesus

Php 2:5-8 (NIV) Have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: [6] Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; [7] rather, **he made himself** nothing by **taking the very nature of a servant**, being **made in human likeness**. [8] And **being found in appearance as a man**, he **humbled himself** by **becoming obedient to death**— even death on a cross!

- THE MINDSET OF JESUS = The path from Heaven to Earth
 - LAID ASIDE HIS GLORY – did not retain equality with god
 - MADE HIMSELF NOTHING – Became in all ways like us
 - NATURE OF SERVANT
 - “Not my will but yours”= Vertical
 - “I have not come to be served”- Horizontal
 - MADE IN HUMAN LIKENESS/ APPEARANCE AS A MAN
 - FULLY MAN
 - HUMBLING HIMSELF
 - BECAME OBEDIENT TO GOD (as an example for us)
 - Even to death

The Last Adam – THE HEAVENLY MAN

1Co 15:45-49 (NKJV) And so it is written, "THE FIRST MAN ADAM BECAME **A LIVING BEING.**" The last Adam became **a life-giving spirit**. [46] However, the spiritual is not **first, but the natural**, and **afterward the spiritual**. [47] The first man was of the earth, **made of dust**; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. [48] As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. [49] **And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.**

- First man – Dust of the earth
- Last man – “LORD FROM HEAVEN”
- SO WE...
 - Born in the image of dust
 - WE BEAR THE IMAGE OF THE HEAVENLY MAN

Restoration of Eden

Mat 28:18-20 (NKJV) And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me** in heaven and on earth. [19] Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, **I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**" Amen.

- The authority that was abdicated by THE FIRST MAN
 - HAS BEEN RESTORED AND MADE ACCESSIBLE BY THE HEAVENLY MAN

Jesus came to RESTORE THE ORIGINAL COVENANT = of Eden..

- God by His own arm
- Through THE MAN – The living Word – Jesus, the son of Mary
 - Brought us back into fellowship

The NEW COVENANT IN JESUS BLOOD - Makes us one with Him

- **COMMUNION**
 - His broken Body – Heals us – HIS SHED BLOOD – SETS US FREE FROM OUR SINS