

GOD Came to Earth in the Flesh

Philippians 2:1-11

Luke 2:1-14; John 1:1-14



26 November 2023

The Second NOT the First!

- Hebrews 9:28; Philippians 3:20-21; Luke 12:37; Titus 2:13

That's Why We Praise Him

He Came to . . .

- See Handout: *Christ Came to Earth*

The Plan

- The Eternal Plan: - Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 1:2; 1 Peter 1:19-20; Acts 2:23; 4:28; 13:48; 15:18
- The Purpose: - a special people - 1 Peter 2:9; Titus 2:14; Acts 13:48
→ See Handout: *God's Eternal Purpose and Me*
- The Person: Christ, Anointed One/Appointed One - Isaiah 42:1; Eph 3:8-11; Luke 2:10-11
- The Assurance: Acts 15:18; Isaiah 46:10-11; 14:24

The Promise (Genesis 3:15)

- The Promise was spoken to Satan!!!
- The Promise came with God's "I WILL's".
- The Promise is that there will be a DIFFERENCE between two seeds. (Matthew 13:38)
 - ① The Seed and seeds of God. (Galatians 3:16, 29; Romans 9:7-8; 1 John 3:9-10)
 - ② The Seed and seeds of the devil. (John 8:38, 41, 44; 6:70; 1 John 3:10, 12; 2 Thess 2:7-8; Revelation 12:9)

The Prophecies of His First Advent (Isaiah 9:6)

- Over 300!
- A Place - Bethlehem - Micah 5:2
- A Person - A virgin - Isaiah 7:14
- Born of a woman - Genesis 3:15
- His Names - Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:6

- Just 8 prophecies: 1 out of 10¹⁷ - a blind man, Germany and Poland, 2 Euros!
- Just 48 prophecies: 1 out of 10¹⁵⁷
- 300 prophecies fulfilled by one man cannot be calculated.
- Psalm 14:1-3! Are you a FOOL or are you a DISCIPLE?

The Mystery (1 Timothy 3:16)

- “Immanuel” - God with us! (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)
- God came to earth in the flesh! (1 Timothy 3:16; Philippians 2:5-8)
- “The Word (God) became flesh and tabernacles among us!” (John 1:1, 14)
- **HE** came to fulfill His promise: Isaiah 46:10-11; 14:24

The Fulfillment: “And IT Came to Pass” (Luke 2:1-14)

- The Timing - Galatians 4:4-5
 - Over 4,000 years from the Promise!
- The Providence - a decree from an earthly king - Luke 2:1-3; Proverbs 21:1
- A Baby - Hebrews 10:5; Luke 2:11-12; John 1:1-14
- The will of the Father: Hebrews 10:7

He Came (Philippians 2:5-8)

- He came to do the will of the Father. (John 5:30; 6:38-39; Luke 2:49)
 - (v. 6) Being God - Creator - King of kings - Lord of lords - Master - Supreme Ruler - Almighty God - Eternal One - Infinite One (John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-16; Hebrews 1:2-3)
 - ★ “robbery” - to take something by force; since Christ **was** already God the term carries the idea of not clinging to or holding on to. Christ never used His deity for personal purposes.
 - ★ Consider these examples: Matt 26:53; Mark 6:38-44 with Matt 4:3-4.
 - (v. 7) “made Himself of no reputation” - “made Himself nothing”; “emptied Himself”.
 - (v. 7) “taking the form of slave” - the lowest of slaves! (John 13:1-15)
 - ★ Matthew 20:25-28
- (vv. 7-8) “**coming in the likeness of men**” or “likeness of sinful flesh” (Romans 8:3), yet, without sin (Hebrews 4:15; 1 John 3:5).
 - ★ This is the **INCARNATION!** God coming in the flesh. This is Christmas!!! (Galatians 4:4; Col 1:22; Hebrews 2:14)
 - ★ From the throne of heaven to a manger!! **MEDITATE!** For sinners!!!!
- (v. 8) “He humbled Himself” – HE DENIED HIMSELF! (Luke 9:23)
 - ★ “Himself” – It was an act of His will. It was an act that would please the Father, so He did it. **MEDITATE!**
- (v. 8) “became obedient” - The LAW GIVER, the KING, the MOST HIGH, put Himself UNDER the Law and became the Law-Keeper!

★ To OBEY:

- ① Acknowledging the authority of another. (John 5:36; 10:29; 14:28)
 - ② Submitting to that authority. (John 14:31; 15:10)
 - ③ Performing the pleasure of that authority. (John 4:34; 5:30; 6:38; Matthew 3:17; 17:5; John 8:29)
- (v. 8) “to the point of death, even death of the cross”
 - ★ Christ came to do the will of the Father – NO MATTER what it was. (Isaiah 50:6; John 10:15, 18)
 - ★ Christ’s determination: Matthew 16:21-23; Luke 9:51.
 - ★ Listen to Christ in agony – **John 12:27-28**; Matthew 26:38-39.
 - ★ The Cross – reserved for the worst of criminals. A Roman citizen could never be crucified.
 - ★ For a Jew to die on a cross was to be cursed by God. BUT Christ became a (the) CURSE for US! (Deuteronomy 21:23; Galatians 3:13)

THEREFORE . . . (Philippians 2:9-11)

- Though Christ was/is God He did not cling to being God in His incarnation; He made Himself of no reputation; He made Himself nothing; came as a slave; in the likeness of men; He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.
- **GOD Has Highly Exalted Him** (Philippians 2:9)
 - Today we ask, “**How high is high?**”
 - ★ GOD RAISED CHRIST FROM THE DEAD! (Eph 1:20; Acts 5:30-31)
 - ★ GOD GAVE HIM ALL AUTHORITY and ALL POWER IN HEAVEN AND EARTH!
 - Matt 28:18; John 17:2; Eph1:21-22; 1 Peter 3:22; Dan 7:13-14.
 - John 17:2-3
 - ★ This HIGHLY EXALTED position is “**far above all principality and power and might and dominion and every name that is named that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come**.” (Ephesians 1:21)
 - ★ In this HIGHLY EXALTED position, Christ is . . .
 - The **King of kings** to RULE OVER all flesh. (John 17:1-2; Revelation 17:14; 19:16)
 - Our **HIGH PRIEST** who now makes intercession for those whom He died. (Romans 8:34; Hebrews 3:1; 7:25-26)
 - **JUDGE of all**. (John 5:22-23; Acts 10:42; 17:30-31; Hebrews 4:13)
 - ✓ ALL unbelievers will stand before Christ as their Judge at the Great White Throne Judgment. (Rev 20:11-15)
 - ✓ ALL believers will stand before Christ as their Judge at the Judgment Seat of Christ. (2 Cor 5:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14)

- ★ In this HIGHLY EXALTED position, Christ is worshiped by “ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands” angels! (Rev 5:11-14)
- ☆ What should our worship be to the One in this supreme position in the universe?
- ★ Why do we NOT prostrate ourselves before Christ? Your answer will show what is in your heart! We will in heaven!
- **GOD Has Given Him a Name** (Philippians 2:9)
 - This name is “**far above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come**”. (Ephesians 1:21)
 - This name is NOT JESUS! The name is LORD!
 - This name speaks of Christ’s majesty, power, authority, honor, supremacy, and sovereignty.
 - As Lord, by definition, Christ is the OWNER, RULER and MASTER of all!
 - As Lord, by definition, everything in heaven and earth, to include all flesh, belongs to Christ. (Acts 17:23-25)
 - JESUS CHRIST IS LORD! GOD HAS MADE HIM LORD! HE IS LORD OVER ALL! (Acts 10:36; John 17:2)
- **Every Knee Will Bow** (Philippians 2:10; Isaiah 45:23-25)
 - Three groups of persons are mentioned:
 - ① Those in heaven – angels and redeemed saints from all ages.
 - ② Those on earth – the redeemed and unredeemed when Christ returns – see 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10.
 - ③ Those under the earth – fallen angels and unredeemed dead awaiting the Great Throne judgment.
- **Every Tongue Will Confess Jesus Is Lord** (Philippians 2:11)
 - Every being (angelic or human) will confess that Jesus Christ is LORD.
 - This confession will either be willingly or unwillingly.
 - Those who have surrender their lives to Christ at salvation this confession will done willingly and joyfully.
 - Those who reject God’s terms of peace (the Gospel) this confession **will be made** unwillingly but certainly made!

To the Glory of the Father (Philippians 2:11)

- Christ’s incarnation (vv. 5-8) and His exaltation (vv. 9-11) is to the glory of God the Father.

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace
among men with whom He is pleased."

(Luke 2:14)

Christ Came to Earth



He Came to . . .

- He came as the living Word of God - He came as God. (John 1:1-2; 10:30)
- He came to fulfill God's eternal purpose. (Ephesians 3:11)
- He came to fulfill the everlasting covenant made between God, the Father, and Himself. (Hebrews 8:10-12; Jeremiah 31:31-33; 32:40; Hebrews 13:20)
- He came to fulfill ALL that was written in Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms concerning Him. (Luke 24:25-27, 44-47; John 5:39, 45-46)
- He came to do the Father's will. (John 6:37-39; Hebrews 10:7)
- He came to save His people from **their sins**. (Matthew 1:21)
- He came to be our Passover lamb. (John 1:36; 1 Corinthians 5:7)
- He came to be our "scapegoat". (Leviticus 16:8-10, 26)
- He came to be our "sin offering" - our SUBSTITUTE. (Leviticus 4:1-13; Romans 8:3; Philippians 2:7; John 1:36)
- He came to be our "trespass offering" - our SURETY. (Leviticus 5:14-6:7; Isaiah 53:6; Hebrews 7:22)
- He came to redeem His people out of the slave market. (Titus 2:14; John 8:24, 36; Romans 6:6, 12, 16, 19-20; Ephesians 2:2; Hebrews 2:14-15)
- He came to pay the penalty for His people's sins. (Romans 5:6; Col 2:13-14)
- He came to *propitiate* God's anger toward His people. (1 John 4:10)
- He came to be our peace offering to bring peace between a holy God and His sinful people. (Acts 10:36; John 14:27; 16:33; Col 1:20; Leviticus 3:1-17)
- He came to bring reconciliation between a holy God and His people. (Romans 5:1, 10-11; 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)
- He came to bring His people to God. (1 Peter 3:18)
- He came so that we might be the children of God. (Rom 8:14-17; 1 John 3:1)
- He came to give eternal life to all who the Father had given to Him. (John 17:1-3; 10:27-30; Romans 6:23)
- He came to be our High Priest and make intercession for God's special people. (Hebrews 2:14-17; 3:1; 4:15-16; 7:25; Romans 8:34)
- He came so that we might be heirs of God. (Rom 8:14-17; 1 Peter 1:3-4)
- He came so that His people would glorify **and enjoy God forever**. (1 Jn 1:3, 7)