

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Galatians 4:1-4**.
Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything, but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father. So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world. But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,
- B. This passage is all about JC. There are four parts to this one verse and each part tells us something different about Jesus of Nazareth.
- C. This verse tells us;
 - 1. JC was made under the law.
 - 2. JC was made of a woman.
 - 3. God was the one who sent JC into the world.
 - 4. JC appeared at the right time.
- D. (The original delivery of this lesson is at "Xmas time" and can be thought of as a sermon dealing with the birth of X.)

I. MADE UNDER THE LAW.

- A. Jesus was born, lived, and died under the Law of Moses.
- B. This was done by God (having Jesus under the Law) so that X could fulfill it (Mt. 5:17-19; Heb. 8:6; Mt. 26:28; Rom. 10:4; Gal. 3:23-25).
(Mt 5:17-19) "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. "For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass away from the Law, until all is accomplished. "Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and so teaches others, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."
(Heb 8:6) But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, by as much as He is also the mediator of a better covenant, which has been enacted on better promises.
(Mt 26:28) "...for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins."
(Rom 10:4) For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.
(Gal 3:23-25) But before faith came, we were kept in custody under the law, being shut up to the faith which was later to be revealed. Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.
- C. The grand story of the OT is that one day a Messiah is coming (Eph. 1:10-11).
He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fulness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things upon the earth. In Him

II. MADE OF A WOMAN.

- A. The promise in Gen. 3:15 is that God would conquer Satan by the fruit of the woman.
"And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."
- B. Therefore, Satan did his best to interrupt the seed line.
 - 1. Cain killed Abel, but Seth came along.
 - 2. God destroyed the world with a flood but Noah's family escaped.
 - 3. At the time of Moses birth, all male babies were killed except Moses.
 - 4. Due to unbelief all died in the wilderness, except Joshua and Caleb.
 - 5. Hezekiah's life was spared due to not having a son (Manasseh).
 - 6. It survived the Assyria's destruction of Israel and the Babylonian captivity of Judah.
 - 7. At the time of Jesus birth, Joseph and family fled to Egypt due to a death threat.
- C. Jesus was conceived by the HS in the womb of Mary, and Jesus was born into the world.

III. GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON INTO THE WORLD.

- A. The reason for this sending is found in 1Tim. 1:15.
It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all.
- B. The cause of this sending is found in Jn. 3:16.
“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”
- C. So that we might have the hope of glory, Jesus is the mystery revealed (Col. 1:26,27).
...that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations; but has now been manifested to His saints, to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.
- D. Jesus was obedient in coming to the earth, although He had equality with God (Phil. 2:5-7).
Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.
- E. Jesus carried out His mission (Lk. 19:10; Jn. 17:4).
(Lk 19:10) “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”
(Jn 17:4) “I glorified Thee on the earth, having accomplished the work which Thou hast given Me to do.”

IV. JESUS APPEARED AT THE RIGHT TIME.

- A. He appeared at the right time due to the **prophecy**:
 - 1. Daniel’s 69 weeks were at hand.
 - 2. John the Baptist is preaching the nearness of the kingdom.
 - 3. Isaiah’s prophecy concerning the birth of X came true.
- B. He appeared at the right time due to **government conditions**:
 - 1. There was relative peace and stability in the known world.
 - 2. There was a good system of transportation for the times.
 - 3. There was a postal system of communication.
 - 4. There was a universal language of all the peoples.
- C. He appeared at the right time due to **the condition of the Jews**:
 - 1. They still longed for the Savior.
 - 2. They were splitting into sects and needed unification.
 - 3. They had built many synagogues all over the Roman Empire.
 - 4. They were not currently being oppressed in any way.
- D. He appeared at the time spoken of in Luke 2:1-20.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. We have little knowledge of whether Jesus was born on Dec. 25th.
- B. Chances are He was not due to the shepherds being in their fields at night, and this probably due to the time of giving birth, which is once a year for sheep in April or March.
- C. But let us rejoice in His coming all year long. And if the opportunity comes this time of year to speak to others about X let us take that opportunity.
- D. Jesus came that we might find salvation in Him. Especially those who believe may have eternal life (1Tim. 4:10).
For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of believers.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.