

## **20211219 GOD CAME NEAR**

Galatians 4:4-7

(2021 Christmas Sunday message)

<sup>4</sup> But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law,

<sup>5</sup> to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

<sup>6</sup> Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."

<sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

Today, I would like to talk to you about the meaning of Christmas. The Bible says when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law. This happened about two thousand years ago. In this verse, we will look into four marvelous spiritual truths together:

1. The perfect timing.
2. The Son of God.
3. Born of a woman.
4. And born under law.

### **FIRST, THE TIMING WAS PERFECT.**

It means the time of the first Christmas was set by God Himself. In human history, the time when the Son of God came near was the exact time God had planned long time ago.

### **SECOND, GOD SENT HIS SON.**

## **John 1:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God.**

<sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning.

<sup>3</sup> Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.

## **Isaiah 9:6**

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born,

to us a son is given,

and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## **Amos 4:12-13**

<sup>12</sup> "Therefore this is what I will do to you, Israel, and because I will do this to you, prepare to meet your God, O Israel."

<sup>13</sup> He who forms the mountains, creates the wind, and reveals his thoughts to man, he who turns dawn to darkness, and treads the high places of the earth—the Lord God Almighty is his name.

## **Revelation 1:7**

<sup>7</sup> Look, he is coming with the clouds,

and every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and all the peoples of the earth will mourn because of him.

So shall it be! Amen.

### **THIRD, HE WAS BORN OF A WOMAN.**

#### **Genesis 3:15**

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

#### **Isaiah 7:14**

<sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

#### **Hebrews 10:15-16**

<sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin.

<sup>16</sup> Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

### **FOURTH, HE WAS BORN UNDER LAW.**

This statement has two significant theological meanings.

**One. God’s faithfulness and the integrity of God’s Word.**

**Two. Our necessity of Savior and God’s salvation.**

#### **Hebrews 2:14-17**

<sup>14</sup> Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—

<sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

<sup>16</sup> For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants.

<sup>17</sup> **For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people.**

Is it a season of joy? Yes, it is. But do we know why it’s the time of joy? It’s because God came near.

When the time was right, Jesus entered into this world, into human history.

**He was the Son of God Himself.** His name is Jesus Immanuel, God with us.

**He was born of woman.** He became one of us. He knows my story. He knows your story. He knows our pain, our sorrow, our struggle, and our longings. We can come to God through His name. When we call upon His name, there is forgiveness, acceptance, hope, grace, and joy.

**He was born under law.** He came as a Jewish man as promised. This proves God’s faithfulness to His Word. He keeps what He says. We don’t have to depend on our unstable feeling for our spiritual assurance.

Whenever doubt, uncertainty, and ambiguity rise in our mind, simply trust the Word of God. Our confidence is founded upon the truth of God.

**John 1:12**

<sup>12</sup> To all who received him (Jesus), to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God