

L4: The Son of The Highest: Keeping the Incarnation - Galatians 4:1-7

Sermon Intro: Summarize/Review

- Christmas fact or fiction
- Foreknown, Foretold, Fulfilled, Fulness

Sermon Preview:

- Keeping the Incarnation: The spirit of the incarnation - the character of God in the incarnation
- 1 Corinthians 8 & Romans 14

Sermon:

- Incarnate - Invested with flesh; embodied in flesh
- Celebrate - To praise; to extol; to commend; to give to; to make famous; as, to celebrate the name of the Most High.
 - To shine, to boast, renowned, to give in marriage (negative & positive)
 - To circle, to march, to observe
 - To keep
- 1 Corinthians 5:7-8
 - "keep the feast"
 - In what way?
 - Keep the incarnation

The Mind of God in Christ

- Philippians 2:1-8
- Galatians 4:1-7
 - Galatians 5:22-23

1 Corinthians 8 & Romans 14

- **Knowledge**
 - Is it wrong to give gifts?
 - God is the greatest gift giver
 - Is it wrong to have a decorated tree in your house?
 - The tree is part of God's creation for many furnish their home with plants.
 - Many adorn their house - God is about furnishing His house
 - In the kingdom the vessels will be holy and the bells of horses will have HOLINESS written on them.
 - Zech. 14:20
 - The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof.

- Is it wrong to decorate lights on your house?
 - The beauty of God's majesty is adorned an array of colors, it is where we get colors from.
 - We see these issues from God's bow, the rainbow and Joseph's coat of many colors.
 - He adorned His tabernacle and temple with an assortment of colors.
 - Not to mention the beauty of His creation with colors everywhere.
 - The problem takes place when you put the colors above the Artist.

- Is keeping the incarnation during the Christmas season a weaker brother - stronger brother issue?
 - Yes & No

- **Romans 14:1-6**
 - This is speaking of the holydays of Israel's program and the ordinances of what they could and could not eat.

- **1 Corinthians 8:1ff**
 - Isn't speaking of Israel's holydays or dietary ordinances, it is speaking of things the pagan idolaters do.
 - "knowledge" & "charity"
 - "conscience of the idol"
 - Many Christians, many grace believers conscience in how they handle the things of Christmas as "some with conscience of the idol" and that if you do any of these things: decorate a tree, have a big meal on Dec. 25th, and put lights up that it is automatically done "unto an idol".
 - "meat commendeth us not to God"
 - Doing these things doesn't put us in a worse position with God, or if we don't are we the better.

- **Charity**
 - **Strong Brother**
 - How you participate in things associated with Christmas although your conscience isn't defiled because of the knowledge and persuasion you have you are able to do these things in faith knowing they are not for the better or worse, but because they are not for better or worse able to freely give them up for the weak brother.
 - Your participation and use of them out never be superior to your love for a weak brother or for an unbeliever who does similar things for ungodly reasons.
 - **Weaker Brother**
 - You are not supposed to stay weak and not supposed to judge your brother who does such things.
 - **1 Corinthians 10:14-33**

Sermon Conclusion:

- **Unity**
 - Romans 15:1-6

- Romans 14:17-20