

L4 | Where is He? | Come to Bethlehem and See | Matthew 2:1-13

I. Intro/Review:

1. Mary Espoused to Joseph
2. Heavenly Host & Lowly Shepherds
3. The Word was Made Flesh

II. Preview:

- Where is He?
 1. The wise men
 2. The life of Christ
 3. The death of Christ
 4. The resurrection of Christ
 5. The ascension of Christ

III. Sermon:

- Where is He?
 1. **The wise men**
 - Matt. 2:1 - "Now when Jesus was born"
 - "there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem"
 1. Numbers 24:15-17
 2. Daniel 1:20, 9:25
 - Matt. 2:2 - "Where is He that is born King of the Jews?"
 - Timeline
 - Luke 2:1 - Mary and Joseph head to Bethlehem where Jesus is born
 - Luke 2:21 - "when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child,"
 - Luke 2:22 - "when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem"
 - Lev. 12:4 - 33 days
 - Luke 2:39 - "And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth."
 - Then Matt. 2:1ff
 2. **The Life of Christ**
 - Conception - "was made flesh" - Galatians 4 - "born of a woman" (Isa. 7 and 9)
 - Birth - born in Bethlehem
 - Circumcised the Eighth Day
 - Nazareth - grow up in Nazareth
 - Rom. 9:5 - "...of whom concerning the flesh Christ came" (Israelites)

- Rom. 15:8-12 - "minister of the circumcision for the truth of God"
 - Luke 1:28-33 - angel to Mary
 - Luke 1:67-80 - Zacharias prophesy
 - Luke 2:25-32 - Simeon - light to lighten the Gentiles
- Baptized, Ministry
- So where is He?
 - Not in Bethlehem
 - Not in Nazareth
 - Not in Galilee
 - Not in Jerusalem

3. The Death of Christ

- 33 1/2 to 34 years old
- Isa. 53
- Same event would be able to change the status of the world
- Same cross-work would and redemptive benefits be given to the Gentiles
- Jn. 18:33-37
 - "King of the Jews"
- Rom. 8; 2 Cor. 5; Rom. 4; Heb. 2
- Joseph of Arimathea - buries Him in a tomb
- 1 Pet. 3:19
- So where is He?
 - Not before the Jews and Gentiles in judgment
 - Not on the Cross
 - Not in the tomb

4. The Resurrection of Christ

- Three days later He rose again
- Matthew 28:1-20
 - Mark 16:9-14
 - Luke 24:1-53
 - John 20:1-21:14
- Acts 1:1-12
- So where is He?
 - Not in the tomb
 - Not in Jerusalem
 - Not in Galilee (sea of Tiberias - John 21)
 - Not on Mt. of Olives

IV. Conclusion:

5. The Ascension of Christ

- Acts 2:22-35 - Ps. 16

{22} Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know: {23} Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: {24} Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it. {25} For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: {26} Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope: {27} Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. {28} Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance. {29} Men [and] brethren, let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. **{30} Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; {31} He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. {32} This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. {33} Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. {34} For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, {35} Until I make thy foes thy footstool. {Acts 2:22-35 KJV}**

- **{Hebrews 2:6-9 KJV}** {6} But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man, that thou visitest him? **{7} Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: {8} Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing [that is] not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. {9}** But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.
- **{1 Peter 3:18-22 KJV}** {18} For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: **{19} By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; {20}** Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. {21} The like figure whereunto [even] baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) **by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: {22} Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.**
- **{Colossians 2:13-15 KJV}** {13} And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; {14} Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; {15} [And] having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

- **{Ephesians 1:19-23 KJV}** {19} And what [is] the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, {20} Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and **set [him] at his own right hand in the heavenly [places]**, {21} **Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: {22} And hath put all [things] under his feet, and gave him [to be] the head over all [things] to the church, {23} Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.**
- **{Ephesians 4:8-10 KJV}** {8} Wherefore he saith, When he **ascended up on high**, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. {9} **(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? {10} He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)**
- Gentiles enemies - Gentile salvation
 - Eph. 6:10-20
 - Jn. 16:33, 1 Jn. 4:4 (contrast 2 Pet. 2:20)
 - 1 Jn. 2:15-17, 1 Jn. 5:4-5
- So where is He?
 - He isn't just King of the Jews
 - He isn't just King of kings and Lord of lords
 - He is the Head of all things - far above all things
 - Blessed and only Potentate

6. The Reign of Christ

- 1 Cor. 15:23-28
 - He must reign
 - Putting all enemies under His feet
- He must reign till all enemies are made His footstool - the last being death which He already conquered Himself - the end of His reign will be seeing He put down all rule, authority, and power and delivers up that which is His to His God and Father that God may be all in all.