

“God With Us pt 3: The Christmas Miracle Continues”

December 20th, 2020 | Pastors Al & Cameron Brice

I. Why did we, the human race, need a Christmas miracle and why is our culture deteriorating, degrading, and debasing?

Ephesians 2:1-3 (AMPC)

“AND YOU [He made alive], when you were dead (slain) by [your] trespasses and sins 2 In which at one time you walked [habitually]. You were following the course and fashion of this world [were under the sway of the tendency of this present age], following the prince of the power of the air. [You were obedient to and under the control of] the [demon] spirit that still constantly works in the sons of disobedience [the careless, the rebellious, and the unbelieving, who go against the purposes of God]. 3 Among these we as well as you once lived and conducted ourselves in the passions of our flesh [our behavior governed by our corrupt and sensual nature], obeying the impulses of the flesh and the thoughts of the mind [our cravings dictated by our senses and our dark imaginings]. We were then by nature children of [God’s] wrath and heirs of [His] indignation, like the rest of mankind.”

Matthew 4:16 (NLT)

“the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light. And for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow, a light has shined.”

- A. God loved His creation so much, that He would not allow us to live in darkness and death. He had a plan from the beginning.

John 1:1-5 (NKJV)

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.”

- B. Jesus was that Light Who came to deliver the human race from the power of death, the power of sin, and the power of the devil. God became flesh and blood, He became human to set us free from death and all the effects of the kingdom of darkness.

John 1:14 (NKJV)

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

II. Why did Jesus have to be a human being to set us free from the power of darkness, from sin and death?

- A. Adam, a man, who was given authority and dominion over the whole earth and the human race, (see **Genesis 1:26-28 NKJV**) disobeyed God and gave the authority of the earth over to Satan (see **Luke 4:5-6 NKJV**).

Genesis 1:26-28 (NKJV)

“Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth

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and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Luke 4:5-6 (NKJV)

“Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. 6 And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish.”

Romans 5:12 (NKJV)

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned...”

Romans 5:18-19 (NKJV)

“Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. (the act of God declaring men and women free from guilt and acceptable to him. **Romans 8:1-2 NKJV**) 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.”

- B. A man got us into this mess and therefore, a man had to get us out. But it couldn't be just any ordinary man, it had to be a pure, sinless man, fully human and fully God. It could be only God Himself.

*To be human, He had to be born of a woman and to be sinless, He had to be conceived and born of the Holy Spirit. (**Matthew 1:18 (NKJV)**, “Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.”)

Hebrews 2:14-15 (NLT)

“Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. 15 Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of death.”

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 (NKJV)

“For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.”

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (NKJV)

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.”