October 22nd – Why Did Jesus Come?

"This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief." (1 Timothy 1:15)

In the New Testament, the Apostle Paul gave us five "faithful sayings" (the others can be found in 1 Tim. 3:1, 4:8, 2 Tim. 2:11-12, and Titus 3:8). Today's verse is one of the most foundational statements in the whole Bible. If you've ever wondered why Jesus Christ came into the world, you don't have to wonder any longer: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Apart from Jesus, there would be no way for men to be reconciled to God.

Some people think that "sinners" is too strong a word to describe mankind. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Bible is very clear that there is no one righteous – "no not one" (Rom. 3:10). That's because every single human being has sinned and "fallen short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23). Our sin is a terrible problem that must be addressed because "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23). The effects of sin are temporary and eternal. That is, sin causes us to die a natural death and it will cause us to suffer eternal torment.

The greatest news mankind has ever heard is that no one has to suffer in hell forever. When we were hopelessly lost in our sins, the Bible says that God "made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5:21). Though we are all guilty sinners deserving of hell, through faith in Jesus Christ we gain a righteous standing before God and the forgiveness of sins. Though each of us is a "chief of sinners," Jesus came to save sinners just like us. Hallelujah, what a Savior!