

*When the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" (Gal 4:4-6)*

For he has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fulness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him, according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to the counsel of his will, (Eph 1:9-11)

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth (John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (John 1:14-16)*

The theme of this season is the heart of the Good News of ur mission. God has acted in human history and time continue the creation by reconciling creation to his own image and will. Let's now focus on this great truth.

- 1) The center of our h is that Christ came "from above"
  - a. He pre-existed
  - b. God acted in human "time" and history
  - c. The origin is "in God" and "by God" as well as "God's design."
- 2) "born of a woman" means completely human
  - a. Not a descent of angels
  - b. He is in all manner a natural human
  - c. Note: there is no mention of a man/male
- 3) "Born under the Law"
  - a. He is Jewish - Hebrew - bound to the Law
  - b. The mission is a rescue/deliverance that is "out of the Law".
  - c. "ek" and "upo"
- 4) To redeem - deliver - liberate
  - a. The second Passover - the new lamb
  - b. *It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore keep standing firm and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery. (Gal 5:1 NAU)*
  - c. *Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.<sup>18</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into his likeness from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2Co 3:17-18)*
- 5) Adoption
  - a. The Incarnation is the completion of Genesis and the "new creation" of humans
  - b. Grace - Truth - Glory - Life (the ageless possession of all in Christ)
  - c. An act and accomplishment of YHWH in Jesus - the original/final Word of God.

Christ taught us that "The Knowledge of God" was the key to ageless life: *This is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you sent. (John 17:3)*

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