

## **“REMEMBERING CHRIST AT CHRISTMAS”**

### **GALATIANS 4:1-5**

#### **TEXT: VSS. 4,5**

**INTRO:** Christmas is a very special time on the Christian calendar. It is the time when Christian believers all around the world celebrate the **INCARNATION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**. In the **BIBLICAL CONTEXT** of celebrating the incarnation of Jesus Christ, Christmas should be a very spiritual time of reflection, praise, and dedication to the mission of Christ by all true Christians. **AND YET**, with many, including some Christians, Christmas has just become another secular holiday with an emphasis on big business, shopping, Santa Claus, elves, reindeer, snowmen, parties and materialism to the point that to many, the reality of Jesus Christ and what He came into the world to do is either avoided, neglected or not even considered. **BUT CHRISTMAS IS A TIME WHEN WE WHO KNOW THE LORD WOULD BENEFIT FROM FOCUSING ON AND REMEMBERING CERTAIN THINGS ABOUT THE INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST THAT WOULD ENHANCE OUR WALK WITH HIM AS WELL AS EXALT HIM FOR ALL THAT HE HAS DONE FOR US**. So, today, as we stand on the threshold of another Christmas Season, let's highlight some things in our thinking that will prepare us SPIRITUALLY for the upcoming days and bring honor to our LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST. Everything we consider today will be very basic to Christianity, but they are also things that we often overlook at this special time of the year.

### **SOME OBSERVATIONS OF GALATIANS 4:4,5**

- 1) A SPECIFIC TIME – Exactly as set by God alone for Christ's birth
- 2) A SPECIFIC ACT – God Sent Forth His Son
- 3) A SPECIFIC WOMAN - The Virgin Mary
- 4) A SPECIFIC BIRTH - Under the Law (The standards of the Mosaic Law)
- 5) A SPECIFIC PURPOSE- To Redeem Mankind from the Curse of the Law
- 6) A SPECIFIC RESULT – To Make Spiritual Adoption to all Mankind Possible

#### **I. REMEMBER WHO CHRIST IS**

-Matthew 16:13-16

A. He is the CHRIST – “MESSIAH”

-As the Messiah, Jesus Christ is **GOD'S ANOINTED DELIVERER FROM SIN TO SALVATION**.

1. As Prophesied – Isaiah 61:1,2 (698 BC)
2. As Performed – Luke 4:16-20

B. He is the Eternal Son of God

1. Isaiah 9:6 – “A Child born and a Son given (Incarnation prophesied)
2. 1 John 4:14 – “The Father SENT the son” (The Son who existed was sent)

#### **II. REMEMBER WHY CHRIST WAS BORN**

A. Christ was born to **GIVE HIS LIFE AS A RANSOM** -Mark 10:45; 1 Tim. 2:6

-In calling James and John to be His disciples, Christ emphasized the significance of SERVING and stressed that He came into the world **to serve humanity by giving his life and paying the price of sin. (Romans 6:23)**.

B. Christ was born to **CALL SINNERS TO REPENTENCE** -Luke 5:32

-This call to repentance goes out to ALL SINNERS to turn from sin and unbelief to Christ for salvation.

C. Christ was born to **GIVE ETERNAL LIFE TO THE WHOSOEVER** -John 3:16

-To “BELIEVE” means to **DEPEND UPON CHRIST ALONE FOR SALVATION**.

#### **III. REMEMBER THAT CHRIST'S BIRTH WAS PROPHESED**

A. The Prophecy Presented – Isaiah 7:14 (742 BC)

B. The Prophecy Performed – Matthew 1:22,23

#### ***IV. REMEMBER THAT CHRIST HAS SENT US TO REPRESENT HIM***

(A VERY SIGNIFICANT APPLICATION AT CHRISTMAS TIME)

- A. The Command of Christ – John 20:21
- B. The Commission of Christ – Acts 1:8

#### ***V. REMEMBER TO RESPOND TO CHRIST'S INCARNATION PROPERLY***

- A. Follow the Example of the Shepherds – Luke 2:17-20
- B. Follow the Example of the Magi – Matthew 2:1-11

#### **LESSON AND APPLICATION**

All too often Christmas comes and goes without the proper focus on what this time of the year is all about. IT IS NOT ABOUT PARTIES, GIFTS AND FICTIONAL CHARACTERS. IT IS ABOUT CHRIST AND CHRIST ALONE AND OUR RESPONSE TO HIM. SO MAKE THIS CHRISTMAS A TIME OF MAKING CERTAIN THAT YOU RESPOND TO CHRIST BIBLICALLY:

- 1) TRUSTING HIM ALONE AS YOUR SAVIOR
- 2) BY RENDERING TO HIM THE PRAISE, HONOR AND GLORY HE IS DUE
- 3) BY GIVING TO HIM YOUR LIFE AS HE HAS GIVEN HIS LIFE FOR YOU
  - YOUR TIME, TALENT, AND TREASURE.