

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE TIMING OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Scripture Reading:

Galatians 4: 1- 7

INTRODUCTION

- The matter of when an action or event takes place is of vital importance.
 - Examples: cooking a meal, baking, taking medications, the swing of a baseball bat, or the pass from a quarterback to an intended receiver.
- God's timing in sending His Son to take upon Himself a human body and a human nature, was not capricious or unimportant. Instead, it was precise and exact!

INTRODUCTION

- The two detailed accounts of the birth of Jesus are recorded in Matthew and Luke. But other shorter passages and verses are vital contributions, commenting on important aspects of God the Son's first coming.
 - Jn 1:1,14 – The Word of God becoming flesh
 - Jn 3:16 – the necessity of God's love in sending His Son
 - Heb 1:1-3 – God the Son coming to be the Father's spokesman to mankind
 - II Cor 9:15 – Grace to God's credit for His unspeakable gift

- **Galatians 4:4 is one of these “auxiliary” verses concerning the birth of Christ. This verse declare God’s precisely chosen time to send His Son to earth to be the Savior of mankind:**
- **“But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law”**

The Precise Time to Fulfill the Promise Concerning “The Seed”

- **The woman’s Seed: the Head-bruiser**
 - Gen 3:15 , cf I Jn 3:8, Rev 20:10
- **Abraham’s singular seed: Christ, and all who would be place into Him by Holy Spirit baptism**
 - Gen 22:17-18, Gal 3:16, 26-29
- **David’s Seed: Christ as King**
 - II Sam 7:12-13

The Precise Time to Solve the Failure of Israel

- **Israel's presumption of ability to do whatever God told them to do**
 - **Ex 19:8, Gal 3:23-24, 4:4-5**
- **A time when most in Israel had given up hope of the Messiah**
 - **Matt 4:13-16, Lk 2:25-32**

The Precise Time to Propagate the Good News About Jesus Christ

- **Pax Romana** (Roman peace)
- **Infrastructure**
 - Roman highways aided Paul's prolific travels
- **A common, established alphabet & trade language - Grk**
- **Information in written form**
 - abundance of copies of the Scriptures
- **15 general similarities among all human ideas of deity**
 - Jesus fulfilled all 15 – power, justice, judgment, wisdom, etc.

CONCLUSION

- Many Christmas gatherings had to be changed or canceled because of the unforeseen weather this last week. But God's plans never change in content or timing. Just as the first coming of Christ was precise in every way, so shall His second coming be perfectly timed! (cf Acts 1:6-7)
- **“...But now is a (welcomed) time; now is a day of salvation” – II Cor 6:2**