

CALL to PRAYER - Thank God for the gift of time and ask to redeem the time - Eph. 5:16

Galatians 4:4-6 - T.I.M.E. to Worship and be Saved

Intro - It is a blessing to be in church on a day when a lot of churches are closed for the holidays. One day is 7 is to be set aside for public assembly & the 1st day of every week is The Lord's Day. And on this Lord's Day we get to focus our attention on His First Coming. God's great plan of salvation came to fruition at just the right time in history. History will also come to its proper conclusion and culmination at just the right time. So...for our time today we are going to consider this text in Galatians with the acrostic T.I.M.E. We come to our time of public worship today to think about: T - *Timing*, I - *Incarnation*, M - *Mission*, E - *Eternal Effect*

T - TIMING

1. Once every seven years Christmas lands on a Sunday
 - a. Some churches find themselves in a quandary when this happens...
 - b. ...do they observe the Lord's Day or the holiday?
2. We do not know the day of Christ's birth...but we do know the time.
 - a. Gal. 4:4 "Fullness of time" "the set time"
 - b. Jesus was born at just the right time...
 - c. ...The right time in history and the right time to fulfill prophecy.
3. God is timeless and He is the Creator and Sustainer of all time
 - a. He made: Days Weeks Months Years
 - b. The timeless God is the Timekeeper & time is moving towards Gods desired end
 - c. Time is unfolding in an ordered & ordained fashion
4. All events happen according to schedule
 - a. Jesus was born at the "right time" ... "set time" "in the fullness of time"
 - b. Our times are in His hands Ps. 31:15a Acts 17:26
 - c. We should pay attention to time, redeem the time, and rest in the Timekeeper (Acts 1:7)

I - INCARNATION

- Incarnation = in the flesh. God came in flesh
 - John 1:1, 14 1 Tim. 3:16 Gal. 4:4
 - Good News = God came He came in the flesh...like one of us - Heb. 2:14
- The first mention of the gospel in the Bible is the promise of this miraculous incarnation
 - Gen. 3:15 the Seed of the woman would crush the Serpent
 - One would be born, not from the seed of man...but the Seed of the woman
 - *The virgin would be with child and bear a son...Immanuel* - Is. 7:14. / Matt. 1:23
- The virgin conception and birth is a critical truth and all important doctrine
 - If Jesus was conceived like everyone else, He would have been born a sinner
 - But He was conceived of Holy Spirit = Holy Child/ The Son of God
 - Matt. 1:20 Luke 1:34-35
 - Without the Incarnation Jesus could not complete the Mission

M - MISSION

- Gal. 4:4-5a the Son was sent on mission by the Father
 - Sent to be born....to be born under law....born to redeem those under law
- Born under law born under the obligation of obedience
 - Jesus was born to obey Heb. 10:5-7 John 6:38
 - A body prepared came to do God's will.... born to obey
 - He was always about His Father's business perfectly obeyed the law
 - Jesus was born to do what all of humanity had not... and could not do - OBEY
 - J.V. McGee illustration - jump to Hawaii from California
 - We all fall infinitely short.
 - Only Jesus made the jump
- To redeem those under the law Ga. 5:5a
 - Jesus came to obey and to pay
 - He came to obey for us
 - He came to pay for us because we couldn't obey
- Jesus' mission from the Father was:
 - Substitution He came in our place. He came like us and for us to represent us
 - Imputation He came to earn a goodness & pay for our badness
 - He gives us His goodness and takes our badness. Double imputation
 - Redemption He came to obey and pay so we would be saved

E - ETERNAL EFFECT

- Jesus' mission was a mission accomplished it was effectual
 - Gal. 4:5-6
 - The redeemed collect eternal dividends off of Christ's completed mission
 - The treasures of eternal bliss are the result of Jesus' obedience & payment
 - Christ not only earned our obedience and paid for our sins...
 - ...He also purchased our eternal inheritance and sonship
 - Jesus paid for our adoption into the family of God
- The sinless Son of God was born a man so sinful men could be sons of God
 - Holidays are family times
 - Some families are estranged....some have no more family... sad time for some
 - Jesus came to bring us into His family - Gal. 4:6 - in family with The Trinity
 - *"I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God - I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood! Join heirs with Jesus as we travel this road; for I'm part of the family, the family of God."*
- God's family is an eternal family
 - Someday...at just the right time...time will culminate into eternity
 - Time will run out and will run into eternity (Only the Timekeeper knows when)
 - Today would be a good day to redeem the time and be redeemed by Jesus
 - Today is the day of salvation
 - Today is a great day to be adopted into the forever family