

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Luke 1:11-45

September 13, 2015

But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

Luke 1:43

Often we ask “Why me?” when bad things happen instead of asking the “Why me?” when we realize how undeserving we are!

We should ask a similar question, “Why me, that God would show Himself to me; that God would send Jesus and allow me to know, hear and grasp the Truth?”

This morning I want us to unpack the question, “Why me?”

Why do we have the privilege of knowing the Truth?

1) We first need to realize it's not because we are anything special in and of our self.

We did nothing to deserve knowing God, nothing to deserve being born in a country that was founded on God and nothing to persuade God to show us His grace...but He has.

We know, and hopefully have received and trusted in, the Greatest News/Gift of all time. Yet, it's not because we are special or great.

We have not gotten what we deserve. We deserve death and Hell because of disobedience to Jesus, but God saved us through His Son.

Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 3:16-4:6

2) Because I am lost and hopeless without Jesus.

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled

with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them. **Romans 1:18-32**

Without Jesus, I am a **goner!**

3) For God's Glory.

Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him. **Isaiah 43:7**

And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God. **2 Corinthians 4:13-14**

4) To be a blessing to others, for others to know Jesus.

*But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. **For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.*** **Luke 12:48**

Too much is at stake for me to hide my light, be ashamed of my light, or put my light in a corner!

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. **Mark 16:15**

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" **Romans 10:12-15**

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." **Matthew 9:37-38**

We have been given Jesus to share Him. The question though is, "Am I sharing Jesus with my **sphere** of influence? Am I sharing Jesus with those closest to me and around the world?"

6,817 is the number of people groups where Evangelical Christians comprise less than 2 % of the population.

There are **3226** people groups who are unreached and unengaged.

We can't be content with being just a Church off of 362 and hope people come and hear about Jesus. We are commanded to **go** and **tell!**

When we realize this we then have no time to complain, curse the darkness, fuss, whine, and think on trivial things. We are to share Jesus; we are to share our story.

May we have no regret!

Do you know Jesus? If so what are you doing with Him? Are you sharing Him? "Why you" that God would save you? So you will share with others.