

The Wonder Child of Christmas

Luke 1:31-33; Luke 2:33-34

I. INTRODUCTION-

- A. The Bible says that Mary and Joseph...were amazed at the things that were said about Jesus...literally, they were filled with awe and wonder.
- B. Have you lost the awe and wonder of Christmas?...Have you lost the awe and wonder of who Jesus is and what God has done for us?
- C. *Luke 1:32 "He shall be great..."* As we look at these verses...I want us to see the greatness of Christ.
- D. The word "great" means...extraordinary, wonderful, splendid, magnificent, noble, distinguished, illustrious, eminent, powerful...one set apart from the rest.
- E. Jesus was uniquely great...there has never been anyone like Him...the person of Jesus should still fill us with wonder and awe...what makes Jesus great?

II. JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD-

- A. Luke 1:32 *"He shall be called the Son of the Most High."*
- B. The phrase "Son of the Most High" and "Son of God"...does not mean that Jesus is a sub-god...or sub-par to God the Father.
- C. It means that Jesus the Son is the same as God the Father...He is of the same nature and equal with God the Father...in essence and attributes.
- D. Jesus is great because Jesus is God. *John 1:1, 14 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."* #1, **JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD-**

III. JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD WHO BECAME A MAN-

- A. *Luke 1:31 "And behold, says the angel to Mary, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a son."*
- B. The phrase *"conceive in your womb and bring forth a son"*...emphasizes the humanity of Jesus.
- C. The conception of Jesus was a miracle of God...but the development in the womb and birth of Jesus was as normal and natural like any other baby.
- D. The statement in Luke 2:6 that says of Mary, *"the days were completed for her to be delivered"* ...means that Jesus was born when Mary came to full-term...after a full nine month pregnancy.
- E. In Matthew 1:20 the angel told Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife, *"..an angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit (His conception is a miracle) and she shall bring forth a son (His birth will be natural.)"*

- F. Jesus was not half God and half man...He was fully God and fully man.
- G. Why did Jesus, the eternal God become man? Listen to the words of Scripture. *Phil 2:5-8 "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."*
- H. For Jesus to accomplish the mission of saving us from our sins, He had to become one of us. **#1, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD; #2, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD WHO BECAME A MAN-**

IV. JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE WAS AND IS SINLESS-

- A. *Luke 1:35 "The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God." The New International Version*
- B. Jesus is the holy one...He is holy, sinless, perfect, without flaw.
- C. He was perfect in His life...He is perfect in eternity...Jesus never needed discipline ... He never needed correction...He never needed forgiveness...He never needed salvation.
- D. Jesus was tempted like no one ever was but He never sinned. *Heb 4:15 "...but (He was) tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin."* **#1, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD; BECAUSE HE IS GOD WHO BECAME A MAN; BECAUSE HE WAS AND IS SINLESS-**

V. JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS THE SOVEREIGN LORD AND KING-

- A. *Luke 1:32-33 "He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: 33And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."*
- B. Jesus is great because He is the sovereign Lord and king of all of the universe.
- C. Jesus not only sits on the throne of David as King of Israel...He sits on the throne of this world...He sits on the throne of the universe.
- D. His kingdom will never end...He will always be the sovereign king and ruler of the universe.
- E. Philippians 2 says one day every knee will bow to Him in recognition and submission to Jesus as King...some will bow willing...some will be forced to bow before the one they have rejected...but all will bow.
- F. To reject the rule of Jesus over your life...is to rebel against the sovereign Lord of all...**JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD; BECAUSE HE IS GOD WHO BECAME A MAN; BECAUSE HE WAS AND IS SINLESS; BECAUSE HE IS THE SOVEREIGN LORD AND KING-**

VI. JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS THE SAVIOR-

- A. *Luke 1:31, "And you shall call His name Jesus."* And to Joseph it would be said

in Matthew 1:21, "Call His name Jesus which means God saves, for He shall save His people from their sins." Luke 2:11 (the angel announced to the shepherds) "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord."

- B. 1 Tim 1:15 "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners..." Jesus said in Luke 19:10, "The Son of Man is come to seek and save that which was lost."
- C. Hebrews 10:5-7 "Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. Then I said, 'Behold, I have come, In the volume of the book it is written of Me To do Your will, O God.' "
- D. The blood of bulls and goats could only cover sin...only the blood of Jesus can take away our sin...Jesus is the Savior...the one born to die for the sins of the world.

VII. JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS THE DETERMINER OF EVERY HUMAN BEINGS DESTINY-

- A. Luke 2:34-35 "And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; 35...that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."
- B. Jesus is the revealer of the human heart...and the determiner of human destiny.
- C. It is what you do with Jesus Christ that determines whether you fall or rise... your eternal destiny...your falling into a pit of hell...your rising into the glories of heaven ...depends upon what you do with Jesus Christ.
- D. Jesus Christ is no ordinary person...1 John 5:11-12 "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."
- E. Anyone who ever enters into heaven...does so because of the work of Jesus Christ in gracious provision for their sin...anyone who goes to hell does so because the work of Christ is not applied to them...because of their unbelief.

CONCLUSION-

#1, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD; #2, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS GOD WHO BECAME A MAN; #3, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE WAS AND IS SINLESS; #4, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS THE SOVEREIGN LORD AND KING; #5, JESUS IS GREAT BECAUSE HE IS THE SAVIOR-

The proper response? "O Come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord."