

GOD'S PERFECT PURPOSE

TEXT: Galatians 4:4-5

But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, [5] to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

PRAYER

A remarkable Christmas card was once published with the title:

"IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME".

The card represented a pastor's falling into a short sleep in his study on Christmas morning and dreaming of a world into which Jesus had never come.

In his dream he found himself looking through his home,

but there were no stockings by the chimney,

No Christmas bells or wreaths of holly

He walked out to the street,
And there was no church.

He came back and sat down in his library, but every book about the Jesus had disappeared.

The doorbell rang and a child asked the preacher to visit his poor, dying mother.

He went with the weeping child, and as he reached the home he sat down and said, "I have something here that will comfort you."

He opened his Bible to look for a familiar promise, but it ended with Malachi.

There was no Gospel

no promise of hope AND salvation,

and he could only bow his head and weep with her in despair.

BUT CHRIST DID COME

WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT HIM?

I have a word from the Lord for you this morning

Consider the importance of your redemption

When you fail to

You take the redeemer for granted

And you place yourself far from him

TRANSITION

Over the last few weeks we have been peering into the heart of the Christmas message

We have seen that in God's perfect timing he gave us the perfect gift of his son Jesus

And He did so for a perfect purpose

That we might have a savior

THAT WE MIGHT HAVE A REDEEMER

It has been 2000 years since God sent His Son into the world to redeem mankind

And in all that time we have been living life in the light Of our Redeemer

He is the one who purchased us

And paid the Ransom price

He Released us from the clutches of Sin

Before Jesus

Man was alienated from God by sin

And God was alienated from man by Judgment and wrath

But Jesus stepped into the picture

At just the right time

GOD CAME

He laid aside his glory

And was born the sinless son of God

That he might redeem us from the curse of the law

Galatians 3:13 says

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

2 Cor. 5:21 says

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Jesus Christ the righteous one overcame sin

And averted God's Judgment

Making a way for us to be reconciled to God

2 Cor. 5:19 says

For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. This is the wonderful message he has given us to tell others.

Jesus made a way for

GOD TO LOOK UPON MAN WITHOUT DISPLEASURE

AND MAN TO COME TO GOD WITHOUT FEAR

Col. 1:20-22

through Christ, God reconciled TO HIMSELF all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

[21] Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. [22] But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation--

That's Redemption

Through Jesus Christ

WHY DID HE DO IT?

Why did he put himself through all that for you and me?

Titus 2:14 tells us

HE... gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

He loved me

And he gave himself for me

To set me free

That's God's Perfect Purpose

I am so Glad I belong to Him Today

I am so glad he gave his life to save mine

I am so glad it makes me want to sing from the old hymn book

Redeemed How I love to proclaim it
 Redeemed by the blood of the lamb
 Redeemed from his infinite mercy
 His child and forever I am
 Redeemed – redeemed
 Redeemed by the blood of the lamb
 Redeemed
 Redeemed
 His child and for ever I am

But I also have a sense of mourning in my spirit

Because I know

That God wants more

He bought you with His blood,
 He filled you with His Spirit
 And set you free from slavery to Sin

Yet many are still stuck in sin

1 Cor. 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? [20] For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

The Holy Spirit says to the church this morning

Romans 6:16 “Don't you realize that whatever you choose to obey becomes your master? You can choose sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God and receive his approval.”

I proclaim to you this morning

The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ

IS THE POWER OF GOD FOR THE SALVATION OF EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES:

The gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is enough to satisfy

He does not want you to live as a slave any longer

He wants to wash you and set you free

A lot of people have been telling me lately

“Pastor I just feel like something is going to happen around here”

They are right

We stand at a defining moment

Either revival is going to be allowed to break loose or

The devil is going to get in the mix of things and sift us like wheat

I don't know about you

But I stand against the enemy and I choose to let God have his way in this place and in my life

I tell you we have to be renewed

We have to turn our lives over and let him into the deep recesses of our being

We need to walk fully in the redemption Jesus bought for us with his own blood

Hebrews 12:1

, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

CONCLUSION

I was reminded recently of an old Keith Green song that speaks to our need today

My eyes are dry
My faith is old
My heart is hard
My prayers are cold
But I know how I ought to be
Alive to you and dead to me
So what can be done
For this old heart of mine
Soften it up
With oil and wine
The oil is you
Your Spirit Above
Come wash me anew in the wine of your love