

Born to Die

The Fullness of Time – Galatians 4:4-7
December 11, 2016

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

-Galatians 4:4-5

I. BIBLICAL FULLNESS

- “Fullness” is a consistent Biblical theme. God fills all things (Ps. 16:11; 50:12; Isa. 6:3; John 1:16; 10:10; Eph. 1:15-23; 3:18).
- “Fullness” in vs. 4 depicts not just a readiness, but a completeness as well (John 1:14-18).
- Jesus came at the hour set by the Father. Time was full (Luke 2:1-7).

II. GOD SENT HIS SON

1. Born of a woman - the God-Man (Matt. 1:20-23).
2. Born under the law - Jesus was a Jew, subject to the Mosaic law, which he fulfilled completely (Heb. 4:15).
3. To redeem those under the law - Christ’s divinity, his humanity, and his righteousness uniquely qualified him to be our redeemer (Rom. 8:3-4; 2 Cor. 5:21).
4. So that we might become sons (Rom. 8:13-17; Gal. 3:25-29).

III. GOD SENT HIS SPIRIT

- The Holy Spirit is “the Spirit of his Son” (Rom. 8:9; 1 Pet. 1:10).
- Our faith is the faith of sons, not of slaves. We are heirs through the work of God (vs. 7; Titus 3:4-7).

KNOW: Jesus came at the right time to save us, historically and spiritually. The time was “full.” He lived under the law of God to save those under the law, so that we might become sons of God.

DO: Live as sons of God.

Suggested Reading:

Heirs with Christ: The Puritans on Adoption, by Joel Beeke
Reclaiming Adoption: The Rediscovery of Abba Father, by Cruver et. al

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read Galatians 4:4-7

1. What does Paul say God did when the fullness of time had come?
2. Why was Jesus’ birth “born of woman” and being “born under law” so important?
3. How do you think Gentiles in Paul’s day reacted when they heard him, a Jew, say that they, Gentiles, were now sons of God? (see Ephesians 2:11-22)
4. How often do you think about the fact that you are adopted into God’s family if you are a follower of Christ? What does it mean to you?
5. When you think of Christmas, do you think of perfect timing? Did you ever consider why Jesus was born when he was?
6. What are some points of application for you from Sunday’s message?