



What Christmas is All About

Exploring the Purpose
of the Incarnation
Hebrews 2:14-18

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • December 18 & 19, 2010 • CD 10-37

14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. 16 For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. (ESV)

1. See _____ (v.14)

2. Consider _____ (vv.15-17)

3. Get _____ (vv.17-18)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others. For more information about small groups at Compass Bible Church that utilize these questions as the basis for their weekly discussion, please call the church office at (949) 540-0699 or email us at SmallGroups@CompassChurch.org.

1. Read **Mark 10:45**. What are some of the dangers of celebrating Christmas with only a view to Christ's birth and not his death?
2. Why do you think many in our culture will celebrate the birth of Christ but ignore the reason for his coming? What does a view of the cross require that a simplistic view of the manger does not?
3. Read **Psalms 39:4-6** and **Psalms 90:10-12**. Why is it healthy and good for us to periodically take an honest look at our own mortality and impermanence?
4. Read **John 11:5-44**. What stands out in your reading of this demonstration of Christ's authority over death and his call to trust him in the face of death?
5. Read **Philippians 1:20-24**. Can you say that because of your current relationship with Christ your attitude toward death is as fearless and confident as the Apostle Paul's in this passage? If not, why? If so, when did that begin?
6. In what specific ways are you showing your reliance on Christ to live your life in a more biblical and godly way?

The CBC Bible Reading Schedule for this Week:

Go to ESV.org (Reading Plans: *Through the Bible*) for schedule prompts.

December 19th
Mic. 1-3 & Rev. 10

December 20th
Mic. 4-5 & Rev. 11

December 21st
Mic. 6-7 & Rev. 12

December 22nd
Nah. 1-3 & Rev. 13

December 23rd
Hab. 1-3 & Rev. 14

December 24th
Zeph. 1-3 & Rev. 15

December 25th
Hag. 1-2 & Rev. 16

December 26th
Zech. 1-3 & Rev. 17

Today's sermon will be recorded and available on CD at the Focal Point Ministries window in the lobby immediately following today's service. For sermons on MP3 go to FPR.info. The following are other available sermons related to today's subject matter.

CD # 0838 – **The Mystery of the Manger**

CD # 0641 – **Four Reasons God Lived Among Us**

CD # 0640 – **Enjoying the Presents without Missing the Gift**

CD # 0937—0940 – **Keeping Christmas (a four-part series on Christ in Christmas)**

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Anderson, **The Lord from Heaven**. Kregel Publications, 1978.

Brown, Charles. **The Divine Glory of Christ**. Banner of Truth, 1996.

Erickson, Millard. **Making Sense of the Trinity**. Baker Books, 2000.

_____. **The Word Became Flesh: A Contemporary Incarnational Christology**. Baker Books, 1991.

Letham, Robert. **The Work of Christ (Contours of Christian Theology Series)**. InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Lewis, Peter. **The Glory of Christ**. Paternoster Press, 1992.

MacLeod, Donald. **The Person of Christ (Contours of Christian Theology Series)**. InterVarsity Press, 1998.

McArthur, John. **The Murder of Jesus: A Study of How Jesus Died**. Word Publishing, 2000.

Owen, John. **Death of Death in the Death of Christ**. Banner of Truth, 1959.

Reymond, Robert L. **Jesus Divine Messiah: The New & Old Testament Witness**. Mentor Press, 2003.

Stott, John R.W. **The Cross of Christ**. InterVarsity Press, 1986.

White, James. **The Forgotten Trinity: Recovering the Heart of Christian Belief**. Bethany House, 1998.