

History Is His Story

Luke 2:1-7

The staff is going through a book by Andy Stanley called *Deep and Wide*. He writes to preachers saying: *"People are far more interested in what works than what's true. I hate to burst your bubble, but virtually nobody in your church is on a truth quest. Including your spouse. They are on happiness quests."* That is probably true, but Jesus is "The Way, the Truth, and the Life." Having faith in Jesus Christ is what works! **I learn to love life the more I trust Jesus is who He says He is and Jesus will do what He says He will do.**

I. Jesus is the focal point of human history.

"In those days (v. 1).... she gave birth to her firstborn son" (v. 7). Christ's came to earth at a set time. Rome ruled the world (Caesar August), the world spoke one language (Greek), and it was now time.

(A). The coming of Christ was anticipated from the beginning.

The first promise of good in the Scripture (the protoevangelium) is "the seed of the woman will crush the head of the serpent" (Genesis 3:15), and God sent Christ to do just that (John 3:16).

(B). The coming of Christ was prophesied by Daniel.

Throughout Daniel's prophesy (580 BC), he foretells the kingdoms that would rule the world. Babylon (609 - 539 BC), Persia (539 - 331 BC), Greece (331 to 168 BC), Rome (168 BC to Christ). The magi from the East (modern Iran) revered Daniel as the greatest magi of all time. They had read his scroll and they came looking for "the King." Daniel prophesied about "those days!" Skeptics scoffed at the book of Daniel until a shepherd boy threw a rock into a cave at Qumran. Daniel foretold the course of human history for half a millennium because God planned it all.

(C). The coming of Christ ushered in the kingdom of God.

"Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." The Scripture says, "God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son" (Col, 1:13).

II. Jesus becomes the foundation of my life.

"My times are in Your hand" (Ps. 31:15). Let me tell you something, if God is able to orchestrate the kingdoms of this world to prepare for the coming of the eternal Kingdom of His Son, then He surely can prepare the world for you. Martin Luther used to frequently say to his worrying, fretting friend, Philip Malancthon, *"Philip, stop trying to govern the world."* We would be wise to heed those words. We are subjects of the King of kings and Lord of lords who has come to give us a life utterly enjoyed! Melissa Sauls posted, *"Sometimes God allows you to hit rock bottom to discover He is the Rock!"*

III. Jesus' birth teaches me to be content in all things.

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn" (Luke 2:7). Let us never forget it is through the great humiliation of the Son of God that we have obtained real life. He began in a stable for animals. *"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich"* (2 Corinthians 8:9)

How can we know whether or not we have been captivated by the riches of God's grace in Christ?

- (A). If we are more preoccupied with His First Coming than we are His Second Coming.
- (B). If we deem more valuable the Kingdom of Christ than we do the kingdoms of men.
- (C). If we live our lives without fear and full of joy, and love people the same way God loves us.
- (D). If we are excited about the prospects of the future and our place in His Kingdom!

God is not a respecter of persons; and we must not be either. We must not allow our opinions of people's characters to be based upon their poverty or wealth, their face or place, or their race or rank

