

## Why Jesus

John does not start his account of the life of Jesus with angel visits, a night time child birth where animals live, or any of the trappings we typically associate with Jesus beginning His life on earth. Instead, John opens his gospel with these words to introduce us to Jesus.

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:1-5 NASB)**

John goes back to the beginning of creation and speaks of the Word. The Word was there, the Word was God, and the Word was a part of creation. Then, in the 14<sup>th</sup> verse, we are told the Word takes on human form.

**And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14 NASB)**

Why? Why did the Word that was God become human?

In Hebrews the second chapter, we see the image of Jesus and a very brief summary of His mission on earth. From here we catch a glimpse of the answer to the question of why. Let's read from Hebrews 2: 9-18.

**But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, *namely*, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.**

**For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings. For both He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all from one *Father*; for which reason He is not ashamed to call them brethren, saying,**

**“I WILL PROCLAIM YOUR NAME TO MY BRETHREN,**

**IN THE MIDST OF THE CONGREGATION I WILL SING YOUR PRAISE.”**

**And again,**

**“I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM.”**

**And again,**

**“BEHOLD, I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME.”**

**Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham. Therefore, He had to (*Lit was obligated to be*) be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted. (Hebrews 2:9-18 NASB)**

There are several reasons why Jesus came into this world. Some of the reasons we will mention this morning will be familiar to you; others may be reasons which you have never considered previously. To be sure, Jesus (God in the flesh) fulfilled many needs in the plan of salvation that deserve consideration.

Perhaps the first reason we should consider is the most obvious. Jesus came to earth to bring salvation to a lost mankind and to bring them to repentance. This is clearly stated in a verse that is often overlooked when we quote the famous verse found in John 3:16.

**“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (John 3:16 NASB)**

This is one of the most quoted verses in the Bible. We find hope for eternal life through our belief in Jesus. The next verse clearly states the purpose for Jesus coming to earth.

**For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. (John 3:17 NASB)**

Jesus came so that **the world might be saved through Him**. This is a concise statement of the mission of Jesus.

In Luke the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter, we find an encounter between Jesus and Zaccheus. We are told that Zaccheus was a descendant of Abraham and that he was a tax collector. When he met Jesus, he gave half of his wealth to God and offered to repay anything that he had obtained illegally.

Many in the crowd were upset that Jesus would be spending time with this person who was considered to be a traitor. Here is what Jesus said: And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:9-10 NASB)

Paul wrote to Timothy and reflected on his life and what Jesus did for him. It is in line with he saying “Every Christian has a history and every sinner has a future.” Paul acknowledged his past and the role of grace as he writes: even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief; and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, with the faith and love which are *found* in Christ Jesus. It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost *of all*. (1 Timothy 1:13-15 NASB)

Within this passage, Paul, once again states the primary reason Jesus came to earth.

**Jesus came into the world to save sinners.** The primary reason for Jesus to come to earth is to bring salvation to God’s creation. Jesus offers salvation. We are free to make our own decisions. Therefore, the burden is own us to choose Jesus over Satan. Satan is a deceiver and often paints a beautiful picture that lures us into sinful situations. Jesus came to bring us release from that sinful state. It is up to us to choose His salvation.

Another reason for Jesus coming to earth is so that He could destroy the works of Satan and free us from the fear of death. Satan is a liar. Jesus was talking with some Jews when He told them that His word was truth and the truth would set them free (John 8:32). They took offense because they were of “Abraham’s seed” and were not slaves. Jesus goes on to tell them that they were not children of Abraham but of the devil. He then tells them that the devil is the father of lies.

**You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:44 NASB)**

One of the biggest lies that Satan tells has been bought by a majority of people. It is the lie that when we die there is nothing else. There is no heaven or hell. This has allowed us to place undue importance on our life on earth. We fear death. Death is the end. Death is a termination. Death ends our existence and we fear letting go to drift into the bleak non-existence we call death. This is a lie Satan has taught us and we have accepted this lie.

Jesus came to defeat that lie. Jesus came in the flesh so meet death head-on and come out as the victor.

**Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. (Hebrews 2:14-15 NASB)**

Because Jesus defeated death, we no longer need to fear death. Jesus came to defeat the works of the devil.

**Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:7-8 NASB)**

In this passage, John tells us another reason for Jesus coming to earth. Jesus came **to destroy the works of the devil.**

A third reason for Jesus coming to earth is to die for our sins. Paul tells us in Romans the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter that our sins carry a death penalty.

**For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23 NASB)**

Just a few pages before making this statement, Paul has shown that we are all in the same situation **for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. (Romans 3:23 NASB)**

We have all sinned and thus are all condemned to death because of our sins. Jesus came to earth to pay that debt. The writer of Hebrews points out how Jesus left His home in heaven to taste death in our place.

**But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, *namely*, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9 NASB)**

Paul writes to the church in Colossae our sins caused us to be separated from God but through the death of Jesus we are reconciled to God.

And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, *engaged* in evil deeds, yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach (Colossians 1:21-22 NASB)

Jesus came to earth to die for us. This allows Him, because of His life on earth in human form, to be the total satisfaction of our debt of sin.

**My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also *those of the whole world.* (2 John 2:1-2 NASB)**

Why did Jesus come to earth as a human? There are many reasons and we have only looked at three this morning. Jesus came to bring salvation; Jesus came to defeat the works of Satan; and Jesus came to pay the debt we owe for our sin, that is He came to die in our place. Because of these reasons, we must conclude **there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12 NASB)**