

Sermon Text: Matthew 1:1-25 His People

God came in full humanity to save His people from their sins.

1) God came.

- a) v. 23 Immanuel = God with us
- b) Isaiah's "Book of Immanuel" (Isaiah 7-12)
 - i) 7:14 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel."
 - ii) 8 Assyria will flood "Your land, O Immanuel" but we will not fear for "God is with us."
 - iii) 9:6 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."
 - iv) 11:1-2 "There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD."
 - v) 12:6 "Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel."
- c) v. 21 "His people" = God's people
- d) vv. 18, 20 "from the Holy Spirit"
- e) Narrative Theology is reinforced by didactic statements:
 - i) John 1:1, 14 Eternal, Divine Word becomes flesh
 - ii) Philippians 2:6 "He was in the form of God"
 - iii) Colossians 1:15-19 "He is the image of the invisible God . . . in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell"
 - iv) Hebrews 1:2-6 "Let all God's angels worship Him."
 - v) Deity of Christ is assumed in salutations, benediction and doxology (2 Peter 1:1; Titus 2:13)
- f) Attributing OT texts about the Yahweh to the Person and Work of Jesus Christ.
- g) The worship of Christ in the NT.
- h) **Application:**
 - i) God is our only Savior. He receives all glory for our salvation.
 - ii) **God** is with us. He draws near us.
 - iii) Jesus is to be worshiped, because He is God.
 - iv) His claims upon us are absolute. To refuse Him is to refuse God.

2) God came in full humanity.

- a) The Genealogy
 - i) v. 1 Son of Abraham = blessing to the nations
 - ii) v. 1 Son of David = ruler of the nations
 - iii) v. 17 Number 14 = David; 3X = superlative
 - iv) The Women of Jesus' Genealogy = Redemption of Gentiles/Sinners
 - (1) Tamar = Judah's daughter-in-law treated unjustly by Judah; sinned grievously to "survive"; justice restored by God's mercy
 - (2) Rahab = Canaanite prostitute; hid spies by faith; incorporated into God's people
 - (3) Ruth = Moabite; loved mother-in-law Naomi and her God; incorporated into God's people
 - (4) Bathsheba = wife of Uriah the Hittite; David's adultery; mother of King Solomon
- b) Born of Mary
 - i) v. 16 "Mary, of whom Jesus was born"
 - ii) v. 18 "the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way"
 - iii) v. 19 "she was found to be with child"
 - iv) v. 20 "conceived in her"

- v) v. 21 “She will bear a son.”
- vi) v. 25 “until she had given birth to a son”
- c) True and Full Humanity (Heb. 2:14)
 - i) Matured physically, intellectually, and in obedience (Luke 2:, 40, 52; Heb. 5:8-9)
 - ii) Rom. 8:3 “sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh” = humanity subject to all the miseries of this life, to death, and to the pains of hell
 - iii) Heb. 4:15 not corrupted by original sin or personal sin
 - iv) “Whatever He did not assume (take on) He did not save.”—Athanasius
- d) **Application:**
 - i) Union with Christ (Heb. 2:10-17 “brothers”)
 - ii) Communion with Christ

3) God came in full humanity to save His people from their sins.

- a) v. 21 “Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins”
- b) v. 16 “who is called Christ” = Anointed one
- c) v. 22 “to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet”
 - i) Prophet = overcomes sin’s darkness by revealing to us God’s will for our salvation
 - ii) Priest = overcomes sin’s guilt by satisfying the demands of God’s justice against our sin
 - iii) King = subdues us to Himself; conquers His and our enemies
- d) **Application:**
 - i) Assurance of pardon for sin
 - ii) Freedom from power of sin
 - iii) Wisdom to walk with God
 - iv) Blessedness promised to Abraham for the nations

Doxology: Glory to God in the highest. —Luke 2:14a