

## The 3 Questions of Christmas

December 25, 2016

### 1 Timothy 3:16 KJV

16 And without controversy **GREAT IS THE MYSTERY OF GODLINESS: GOD WAS MANIFEST IN THE FLESH,** justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

### John 1:10-14 KJV

10 He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

11 He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name:

13 Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 **AND THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, AND DWELT AMONG US, (AND WE BEHELD HIS GLORY, THE GLORY AS OF THE ONLY BEGOTTEN OF THE FATHER,) FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.**

### Luke 1:28-35 NASB

28 And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

29 But she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was.

30 The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God.

31 **"AND BEHOLD, YOU WILL CONCEIVE IN YOUR WOMB AND BEAR A SON, AND YOU SHALL NAME HIM JESUS."**

32 "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David;

33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end."

34 Mary said to the angel, "HOW CAN THIS BE, SINCE I AM A VIRGIN?"

35 The angel answered and said to her, "**THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU, AND THE POWER OF THE MOST HIGH WILL OVERSHADOW YOU; AND FOR THAT REASON THE HOLY CHILD SHALL BE CALLED THE SON OF GOD."**

## AM I WORTH SEEKING FOR? AM I WORTH DYING FOR?

### Matthew 18:12-14 NASB

12 "What do you think? If any man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, **DOES HE NOT LEAVE THE NINETY-NINE ON THE MOUNTAINS AND GO AND SEARCH FOR THE ONE THAT IS STRAYING?**"

13 "If it turns out that he finds it, truly I say to you, **HE REJOICES OVER IT MORE THAN OVER THE NINETY-NINE WHICH HAVE NOT GONE ASTRAY."**

14 "**SO IT IS NOT THE WILL OF YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN THAT ONE OF THESE LITTLE ONES PERISH."**

**Matthew 9:35-38 NASB**

35 **JESUS WAS GOING THROUGH ALL THE CITIES AND VILLAGES**, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

36 **SEEING THE PEOPLE, HE FELT COMPASSION FOR THEM, BECAUSE THEY WERE DISTRESSED AND DISPIRITED LIKE SHEEP WITHOUT A SHEPHERD.**

37 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few.

38 **"THEREFORE BESEECH THE LORD OF THE HARVEST TO SEND OUT WORKERS INTO HIS HARVEST."**

**Luke 19:1-10 NASB**

1 He entered Jericho and was passing through.

2 And there was a man called by the name of Zaccheus; **HE WAS A CHIEF TAX COLLECTOR** and **HE WAS RICH.**

3 Zaccheus was trying to see who Jesus was, and was unable because of the crowd, for he was small in stature.

4 So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree in order to see Him, for He was about to pass through that way.

5 When Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, **"ZACCHEUS, HURRY AND COME DOWN, FOR TODAY I MUST STAY AT YOUR HOUSE."**

6 And he hurried and came down and received Him gladly.

7 When they saw it, they all began to grumble, saying, **"HE HAS GONE TO BE THE GUEST OF A MAN WHO IS A SINNER."**

8 Zaccheus stopped and said to the Lord, **"BEHOLD, LORD, HALF OF MY POSSESSIONS I WILL GIVE TO THE POOR, AND IF I HAVE DEFRAUDED ANYONE OF ANYTHING, I WILL GIVE BACK FOUR TIMES AS MUCH."**

9 And Jesus said to him, **"TODAY SALVATION HAS COME TO THIS HOUSE, BECAUSE HE, TOO, IS A SON OF ABRAHAM."**

10 **"FOR THE SON OF MAN HAS COME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THAT WHICH WAS LOST."**

**Philippians 2:3-8 NASB**

3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;

4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

5 **HAVE THIS ATTITUDE IN YOURSELVES WHICH WAS ALSO IN CHRIST JESUS,**

6 **WHO, ALTHOUGH HE EXISTED IN THE FORM OF GOD, DID NOT REGARD EQUALITY WITH GOD A THING TO BE GRASPED,**

7 **BUT EMPTIED HIMSELF, TAKING THE FORM OF A BOND-SERVANT, AND BEING MADE IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN.**

8 **BEING FOUND IN APPEARANCE AS A MAN, HE HUMBLED HIMSELF BY BECOMING OBEDIENT TO THE POINT OF DEATH, EVEN DEATH ON A CROSS.**

**Romans 5:6-11 NASB**

6 For while we were still **HELPLESS**, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

7 For one will hardly die for a **RIGHTEOUS MAN**; though perhaps for the **GOOD MAN** someone would dare even to die.

**8 BUT GOD DEMONSTRATES HIS OWN LOVE TOWARD US, IN THAT WHILE WE WERE YET SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.**

9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

10 For if **WHILE WE WERE ENEMIES WE WERE RECONCILED TO GOD THROUGH THE DEATH OF HIS SON**, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

11 And not only this, but **WE ALSO EXULT** (*kauchaomai - to boast, to glory in*) **IN GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

**WHY SHOULD I WORRY OR FEAR?**

*Lo! He lays his glory by,  
Emptied of his majesty!  
See the God who all things made,  
Humbly in a manger laid.*

**CAST WE OFF OUR NEEDLESS FEAR,**  
*Boldly to his crèche draw near,  
Jesus is our flesh and bone,  
God-with-us is all our own.*

Charles Wesley (1707–1788)

**Romans 8:28-39 NASB**

28 And **WE KNOW THAT GOD CAUSES ALL THINGS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD, TO THOSE WHO ARE CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.**

29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

31 **WHAT THEN SHALL WE SAY TO THESE THINGS? IF GOD IS FOR US, WHO IS AGAINST US?**

32 **HE WHO DID NOT SPARE HIS OWN SON, BUT DELIVERED HIM OVER FOR US ALL, HOW WILL HE NOT ALSO WITH HIM FREELY GIVE US ALL THINGS?**

33 **WHO WILL BRING A CHARGE AGAINST GOD'S ELECT?** God is the one who justifies;

34 **WHO IS THE ONE WHO CONDEMNS?** Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.

35 **WHO WILL SEPARATE US FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST?** Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

36 Just as it is written, "For Your sake we are being put to death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 **BUT IN ALL THESE THINGS WE OVERWHELMINGLY CONQUER THROUGH HIM WHO LOVED US.**

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,

39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **HOW SHOULD I RESPOND TO SUCH A LOVE?**

**Romans 12:1-2 NASB**

1 **THEREFORE I URGE YOU, BRETHREN, BY THE MERCIES OF GOD, TO PRESENT YOUR BODIES A LIVING AND HOLY SACRIFICE, ACCEPTABLE TO GOD, WHICH IS YOUR SPIRITUAL SERVICE OF WORSHIP.**

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20 NASB**

19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and **THAT YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN?**

20 **FOR YOU HAVE BEEN BOUGHT WITH A PRICE: THEREFORE GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY.**