

Why A Manger?

(Luke 2)

- Introduction:
1. There are many questions in life that will never be answered unless the Lord decides to answer them for us someday.
 2. Being observant enough to ask the right questions is one of the greatest tools to learning.
 3. Taking into consideration the infinite choices that God had at his disposal, I'd like for us to ask a few questions surrounding the birth of Jesus.

I. Why A Baby In A Manger?

- A. Jesus is the only person to ever walk this Earth who had the choice as to how he would enter this world.
- B. Jesus chose to enter as a baby in a manger.
- C. But why?
 1. Humility.
 - a. (Philippians 2:3-8).
 - b. It's hard to grasp that the Creator of the universe was right there in that manger as an infant.
 - c. If we want to make it to Heaven, we must learn and put into practice the humility of Jesus (Matthew 5:3; James 4:10; Luke 14:11).
 2. Dependence.
 - a. As a baby, Jesus' survival was totally dependant upon the care and love of Joseph and Mary.
 - b. Jesus is not asking us to do what he, himself was unwilling to do.
 - c. (1 Timothy 4:10).
 - d. (Jude 21-25).
 3. Sympathy.
 - a. (Hebrews 4:14-15).
 - b. "Nobody knows the troubles I've seen..."
 - c. The incarnation of Jesus was the greatest act of sympathy (1 John 3:17; 2 Corinthians 8:9).

II. Why Then & There?

- A. Of any point in time, and any place in history, why did Jesus choose first century Palestine?
- B. (Galatians 4:4).
- C. (Matthew 20:28).

- Conclusion:
1. Isn't it funny that when we look at the life of Jesus as a model for our lives, we usually begin looking at his personal ministry or the cross to find our example.
 2. But in reality, Jesus began teaching us from the moment he entered this world as a baby.
 3. Don't overlook the lessons he taught us from the manger.