

# Jesus: His Birth

(Matthew 1:1-25)

- Introduction:
1. Last week, we established the identity of Jesus (John 1:1-3,14).
  2. In this lesson, we want to examine some of the facts surrounding his entry into this world.

## I. Why a Manger?

- A. Consider the nearly infinite ways at the disposal of God to bring Jesus into the world.
- B. God chose a baby in a manger.
- C. The thought of the Creator of the Universe being a helpless infant who had to grow and learn like all of us is amazing (Luke 2:52).
- D. That begs the question, "why?"
- E. While God does not explicitly answer that question, can we partially answer by way of inference?
  1. It was a demonstration of humility (Philippians 2:5-8).
  2. He subjected himself to dependency (He was fully human – Mt. 16:13).
  3. It's a display of God's wisdom and power (1 Corinthians 1:20-25).

## II. Why There and Then?

- A. (Galatians 4:4).
- B. Why was the first century Judea and Galilee the right place and time to bring Jesus into this world.
- C. Again, while the answer is not explicitly given, we can partially answer by observation.
  1. The Jewish dispersion and hope of a coming Messiah.
  2. Synagogue development and reading of Scripture.
  3. Septuagint – Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures 280 B.C.
  4. Aristotle and logical thinking.
  5. Roads – "All roads lead to Rome."
  6. "Pax Romana" – Peace of Rome.
  7. Receptiveness of the people.

- Conclusion:
1. The birth of Jesus was the beginning of the end of God's great scheme of redemption.
  2. From the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8), God was overseeing and manipulating world events to bring us to this point in time.
  3. Should we not feel humbled and grateful to be the objects of God's love and concern?
  4. Jesus said that we express our love to him by obeying him (John 14:15).