

## JESUS: THE REST OF THE STORY

We Celebrate famous people's birthdays—not because they were born, but because of what they did in life. Likewise Jesus birth is only the prelude to what He did while on earth (and the fulfillment of God's plan from the beginning).

### BEFORE HIS BIRTH

**Preexistence.** John 1:1-2, 14 (Gen.1:26)

**Selection of a lineage**— seed of Abraham. Gen 12:1-3

**Preparation a nation** (Israel). Gal.3:19

**Prophets foretold of His coming.** Isa.7:14, 53:1ff

Birth preceded by promises of a messiah. Joh.4:25

BIRTH—in the fullness of time. Gal. 4:4-5

### AFTER HIS BIRTH

**Little mention of his early years.**

Flight to Egypt because of Herod. Mat 2:13

Grew up in Nazareth as son of carpenter. Mat.2:19-23

12 years old trip to Jerusalem. Luk.2:42ff (:49)

**Personal Ministry** (about age 30): to do His Father's will. Joh.6:38

Baptism by John (His forerunner)

Went about doing good—as He sent message to John the B. Luk.7:22

Selected apostles (ordinary men to do extraordinary work).

Taught and trained them; empowered them.

Sacrificial death, burial, resurrection.

**Ascension** to reign over His kingdom (not of this world), His body, His church. Eph.1:18-23

### RESULT

**Propagating of the Good News** (salvation from sin, hope of eternal life). Great commission!

First with Apostles, then others—continue to this day.

This Gospel still has the power to save, transform, cleanse; guide. Rom 1:16

**Promised return** to take His own to be with Him. John 14:1-3

THEME OF BIBLE: Tree of life lost and regained made possible by Jesus carrying out the will of God.

Rejoice in the fact that He came— **and consider reason He came.**

Adore the Christ-child—**and the Christ-lord.**

Enjoy visions of baby in manger— **and a king in heaven.**

He was born in the flesh that **we might live in the spirit.**

He died on the cross that **we might die to sin.**

He was resurrected that **we might be raised to walk in newness of life.**

### MESSAGE FOR YOU AND ME

Good news: find rest for your soul by coming to Him.

Cleansing of guilt of sin by baptism into Him.

Obedying his commandments (showing love for Him).

All spiritual blessings in Him. Eph.1:3

He invites to all to put their faith (trust) in Him; be baptized (commitment) into Him; learn from Him (discipleship). Obedying out of love for Him.