

Galatians 4:4-7 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. 6 And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" 7 So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

The Perfect Time - In the fullness of Time -

Politically - Roman Peace "It was the best of times"

No wars - One trade language - Greek Roads and travel open for all

"It was the worst of times"

Height of political corruption
Slaves outnumbered freemen
2/3 of population in slavery
Rome far away but ruled over Israel

Intellectually

- Disillusioned but hopeful

Philosophers - high ideas but out of reach
Old Testament concepts spread by Jews
(hope for Messiah)
Open exchange of ideas due to one language

Morally

- bankrupt and corrupt

No value on human life
Men were possessions and numbers
Thousands sacrificed for entertainment
Babies were destroyed for convenience

Religiously

- Distrusted and Questioned

Pagan religions were weak and had nothing to offer Sensual pleasure was worshipped Jewish religion of one God - known widely Hope of Messiah - taught faithfully But the law that no one could keep

Most importantly it was God's perfect time His Plan was fulfilled

Man chosen to produce a nation - Abraham Nation chosen to protected His promises Nation was tested and purified and waiting

The Prophecies were fulfilled

Given first to Adam and Eve - Genesis 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

Told of the coming of the Messiah like Moses

Revealed the place of birth — Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)

And the time of His birth (Daniel 9:24-26).

Prophets gave over 300 prophecies fulfilled in Christ

His Purpose was fulfilled. God is outside of time

Genesis I:I "In the beginning God"

I Peter 3:8-9 But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

God stepped into time at the creation but more at the birth of Christ

Christ was keenly aware of the right time.

"My hour has not come" - 4 times in John

The hour has come — **John 17:1** When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,

Christ died for us at the right time

- Romans 5:6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly.

In the fullness of Time God meets us - Today!!

The Perfect Plan

-God sent His Son, born of a woman, under the law

Incarnation - God became a man

"The how is inscrutable, the why is incomprehensible, the fact is undeniable." Shepard

God sent forth His Son

It was God's plan - His initiative

He sent forth - did not create

Jesus was fully God from the beginning of time

Creator - John 1:1-3

Sustainer of life - Hebrews 1:3

Eternal - 1 John 1:2

Forgiver of sin - Colossians 3:13

Conclusion - Jesus was fully God

Born of a woman

Born - "to become", to be made

Conceived of the Holy Spirit - Luke 1:35

Was born naturally (He cried, was hungry etc.)

He "became"

Flesh John I:14

The likeness (essence) of man Philippians 2:7-8

Sin for us (not His)

2 Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

He lived as a man

Conclusion - Jesus was fully man

Born under the law He was subject to the Jewish laws He was subject to moral law He was subject to the law of God God is a Holy God and cannot allow sin in Heaven The law demands a payment

the shedding of blood - **Hebrews 9:22**Jesus offered Himself as the sacrifice - **Hebrews 9:26**

Conclusion - Jesus fulfilled the law

Why did He come as a human? To really know us

Hebrews 4:14-16 - Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

To show us the Father Colossians 2:9

For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,

To do the will of the Father

John 6:38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me.

To destroy the work of the Devil
To deliver us from sin
To die in our place

I John 3:8
Galatians I:4
Romans 5:8

The Perfect Redemption

- in order to redeem, to adopt us as children

If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent us an educator. If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent us a scientist. If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent us an economist. If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent us an entertainer. But our greatest need was redemption, so God sent us a Redeemer.

The Need of Redemption

A. Original state

Made in the image of God to eternally - with God

B. Fallen state

Made in the image of fallen man

Romans 3:23 ... All have sinned

Under the condemnation of the law

Romans 6:23 ... The wages of sin is death

Under the curse of the law

Galatians 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"—

The inability of the law to redeem us

No one justified by the law

Galatians 3:11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith."

The Price of Redemption

- The shedding of Blood Hebrews 9:22
- The perfect sacrifice
- Mark 10:45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

The Words of Christ Himself

The Son of man came . . . to give His life a ransom for many

(Matthew 20:28).

This is my body which is given for you . . . This cup is the new testament in my Blood, which is shed for you (Luke 22:19-20).

The Product of Redemption

The adoption as children of God

John I:12 He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

As Children we have Forgiveness of our sins

Ephesians 1:7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,

Peace with God

Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Perfect Relationship –

An intimate child and an heir

Can man really have a relationship with God?

I John 3:I See how very much our Father loves us,
for he calls us his children,
and that is what we are!

Man's original state - created by God
Created in the image of God - Genesis 1:26-27
Created to have fellowship with God - Genesis 3:8
They heard the sound of God walking in the Garden - calling

Man's fallen state - corrupted by sin Fallen from the glorious relationship Under the curse and condemnation of sin

Man's redeemed state - restored as children of God

Galatians 3:26 For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

A Childs Spirit

New life created

2 Corinthians 5:17

New nature - like our Father. Ephesians 4:24

A Childs Heart

We look to God for help - We call out We cry with intimacy - "Abba, father" Jesus in garden of Gethsemane

Mark I 4:36 And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will."

Paul makes it the sign of our relationship with God

Romans 8:14–16 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

A Child's inheritance - Heirs of God

Heirs of all that is God's

Co-heirs with Christ.

Romans 8:17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

What does the fulness of time mean for us?

Time is in the hand of God

Today is the right day for us.

2 Corinthians 6:2

For he says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time;

Behold, now is the day of salvation.

How should His perfect plan change our lives?

We acknowledge that Christ was fully man and fully God In confidence we come boldly to His throne

Hebrews 4:15–16 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

How should we respond to His plan of redemption?

Acknowledge our need of a redeemer

Receive salvation by faith

Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing;

it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

How shall we live as Children of Christ?

Learn to rest in Christ - Matthew 11:28-29

Then Jesus said, "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Live in the freedom you have in Christ - I Corinthians 7:23 God paid a high price for you, so don't be enslaved by the world.

Light up the world around you with the Gospel in good works - Titus 2:14 He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds.