

Christmas Advent 2015

How would it impact your life if you discovered that there were incredible *evidences* showing that GOD was born as a human being over 2,000 years ago? And further, how would it impact you if you knew that the reason He was born on earth was so that He could reveal His own divine nature to you and help you have a lifelong relationship with Him?

Let's look at these *evidences* this Christmas Advent season and then learn to worship GOD better as we discover, in a new and fresh way, the birth of the divine Son of God, JESUS CHRIST.

FIVE evidences that testify to the reality that Jesus Christ was GOD, born on earth:

Read: Luke 2:1-20—Questions for learning:

1. What eyewitnesses were recorded as being present at Jesus' birth?
2. Who saw baby Jesus on the eighth day after his birth? (Luke 2:21-38) And who saw baby Jesus some time later? (Matthew 2:1-12)?
3. The Apostle John, who was one of Jesus' 12 disciples, wrote the letter called 1 John. How important did he think the eyewitnesses of Jesus' life were? (1 John 1:1-4)
4. How many eyewitnesses of Jesus' life and teaching were there in Matthew 14:14-21? How many people witnessed Jesus' resurrection? (1 Corinthians 15:3-8)

PERSONAL IMPACT: *If so many people witnessed the amazing birth and life of Jesus Christ, how does that impact your desire to know more about Jesus and what He wants for you?*

• Jesus is the IMMANUEL, "God with us."

Read: Matthew 1:18-25: The historical accounts of Jesus' birth in the Bible are an amazing record of that moment in time when God was born in the flesh on the earth. And Bible history is amazingly trustworthy! For further reading on the historical accuracy of the Bible, please go to www.westhillsc.com/pastors-articles.html and read the article, "5 Reasons To Trust The Bible". In addition to the Bible, there were other historians who recorded the life of Jesus Christ. Among them were historians like Josephus, Tacitus, Suetonius, and Phlegon. For additional reading on these authors, see www.creatingfutures.net/birth.

Questions for learning:

1. Years after Jesus' birth, Luke recorded the biography of Jesus' life in the Gospel of Luke. How important did he think an accurate account of Jesus' birth and life were? (Luke 1:1-4)
2. The Apostle John also commented about the importance and the reason for accurately recording the life of Jesus Christ. What did he say in John 20:31?
3. In the telling of Jesus' birth in Matthew 1:21, why did the angel say to Joseph that the baby's name would be Jesus? What does that name mean?

PERSONAL IMPACT: *Knowing that the Bible is historically accurate and that other historians verify the life of Jesus Christ, how is your faith in Jesus as the SAVIOR of the world strengthened?*

• Jesus is the SAVIOR, born to set His people free.

Read: Luke 2:39-52

Jesus lived an amazing life. His miracles of healing and His work of helping others is a clear testament to his divine nature. So His miracles and work are an evidence of his divine birth. May we worship His awesome holiness!

Questions for learning:

1. In Luke 2:39-52, we see that even as a young boy Jesus was a uniquely special person. What do we learn about Jesus at age twelve?
2. Read John 9:1-12. What miracle did Jesus perform? What does it say is the reason?
3. Jesus performed lots of miracles during his life, even more than are recorded in the bible (John 20:30). What does Jesus say is the reason for the works that he does in John 10:37-38?

PERSONAL IMPACT: *The Bible evidence shows that Jesus often performed miracles throughout his life which testifies to the fact that he was born the divine SON OF GOD. Knowing this, how are you impacted this Christmas by His holy birth?*

• Jesus is the SON OF GOD, in whom the fullness of deity dwells.

ONE:
EYEWITNESSES
of Jesus' birth
and life.

TWO:
HISTORICAL
ACCOUNTS of
Jesus' life.

THREE:
The MIRACLES
and work
of Christ.

FOUR:
PROPHECIES
of Jesus from the
Old Testament

Read: Matthew 2:1-12:

The Old Testament has over 300 prophecies about Jesus that are fulfilled in the New Testament! That's no coincidence. It is clear evidence that Jesus was who He said He was: The KING of Kings and LORD of lords. Of those 300 prophecies, many were fulfilled on the day of His birth. Read the following Old Testament passages, together with their coinciding New Testament fulfillments. Then write down what prophecy was fulfilled.

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| 1. OT Prophecy: Isaiah 7:14 | NT Fulfillment: Matthew 1:21-23 | _____ |
| 2. OT Prophecy: Micah 5:2 | NT Fulfillment: Matthew 2:3-6 | _____ |
| 3. OT Prophecy: Hosea 11:1 | NT Fulfillment: Matthew 2:13-15 | _____ |
| 4. OT Prophecy: Jer. 31:15 | NT Fulfillment: Matthew 2:16-18 | _____ |

PERSONAL IMPACT: 300 fulfilled prophecies in one person is no coincidence! If Jesus truly is the KING of kings and LORD of lords, then are you making Him your King and Lord this Christmas?

• **Jesus is the KING of kings and LORD of lords.**

FIVE:
Billions of Christians
around the world
who find strength
in God

Read: John 1:1-5, 10-14:

There are currently over 2 Billion practicing Christians in the world today. Clearly, this is practical evidence that God is a giver of inward strength. The passage for today, John chapter 1, tells us that those who receive Christ into their hearts by faith become "children of God." That is, they receive the good things that a good father gives to his children. How about you this Christmas? Are you a child of God through faith in Jesus Christ?

Questions for learning:

1. Who is "the Word" spoken of in John 1:1? How long had he been *with* God? How long had he been God?
2. What did Jesus help do? (John 1:3)
3. When Jesus was born, where did He live? (John 1:14a) What did people see in Jesus when He was born on earth? (John 1:14b)

PERSONAL IMPACT: The evidence shows that 2 Billion people agree together about the strength that God gives them. You can have that same strength from Him. Do you know today that you are a child of God? If not, please turn over to the back page of this brochure for a short explanation of what it means to become a Christian and experience the strength and power of a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

• **Jesus is our intimate FRIEND.**