

Jesus – the Reason for the Season

INTRO:

- **Christmas** wasn't meant to be a season.
- **Apple TV commercial.**

Matthew 16:13-17 – When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” ¹⁴So they said, “Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”

- **Note:** Jesus gave ‘em the answer with the question.
- **John the Baptist** – national hero.
- **Thru the Bible Commentary:** A young preacher friend of mine, an extrovert, heard me speak of this; so he went out on the street corners and asked the question concerning Jesus Christ of folk who passed by. He got all sorts of viewpoints. Some said that He was the greatest teacher this world has ever seen. One person said that He was a founder of religion. Another felt that He was a *good* man. Another put Him in a class with other men who were famous in history—just “one of the prophets,” you see.
- **Important:** who do YOU say that Jesus is?

Isaiah 9:6, 7 – For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

- **Note:** “a Child is born” – HUMANITY; “a Son is given” – DEITY.
- **Note:** this Child/Son could not be born of just any woman.
 - His lineage had to be correct.
 - It had to be a virgin birth.

Philippians 2:5-11 – “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. ⁹Therefore God also has highly

exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

- **“mind”** – way of thinking and judging.
- **“form” [vs. 6]** – MORPHE; outward form. Jesus looked like God.
- **“robbery”** – a thing to be grasped.
- **“equal”** – in quantity and quality.
- **“made Himself of no reputation”** – emptied Himself.
- **“form” [vs. 7]** – same as above.
- **“appearance”** – SCHEMA; appears the same to all the senses. [I.e., the senses couldn’t have picked up that Jesus was anything but human.]
- **“obedient”** – to hearken; to listen to and obey.

Hebrews 1:1-4 – *“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.”*

Oral Roberts – the Fourth Man in the Fire.