

THE CHILD WHO CHANGED

everything



The Night That Changed Everything Forever

By Pastor Sabu Samuel

How could this innocent lamb who willingly submitted himself as a sacrifice divide time in two (BC and AD)? BC stands for Before Christ and AD stands for Anno Domini, this is Latin for “The Year of our Lord”. Out of the sixty billion people who lived on this Earth, attract a combination of attention, devotion, criticism, adoration and opposition like no other person? Every word Jesus has ever spoken has been analyzed, studied, dissected, scrutinized, labored over, and memorized for two millennia. Jesus Christ lived 20 centuries ago, but his impact has left a lasting effect on all generations.

There are three reasons why his birth and life has left a deep impact on generations. The first reason is because Jesus alone reveals the father. “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation,” Colossians 1:15 says.

The word used for image is the Greek word “icon,” meaning, “replica.” The baby born in Bethlehem wrapped in humanity is God in human flesh.

“For it pleased the Father that in Him (Jesus) all the fullness (of God) should dwell,” Colossians 1:20.

“All of God is in Christ,” For example, “God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are combined in the Lord Jesus Christ. In essence this verse says, the only way you can know God as Father is through Jesus.

The second reason how this child changed the world is by his sovereign rule.

“And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence” (Colossians 1:18).

He is the Only One, from eternity past to eternity future, occupies the first place. To him belongs all glory, power and honor.

“It is Jesus who rules the Universe, Jesus is the power of creation” “That little baby that you read about in Matthew 1 is the mighty God of Genesis 1. The baby who is lying in a manger, whose feet are being tickled by the loose straw, is the mighty God who spoke the Universe into existence.” What a profound revelation of Jesus Christ.

John 1:3 says of Jesus, “All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.”

In conclusion, Jesus is the only one who can reconcile the lost. When you read the book of Genesis you come across man’s loss of intimacy with God in the Garden. Noah’s ark, provided a picture of salvation from a sinful world, and Abraham’s test to sacrifice Isaac, featured a substitutionary ram caught in a thorny thicket on Mt. Moriah, with the story of Joseph in Egypt, which pictured a Christ-type who saved his people, and the story of the Passover lambs, whose blood caused the Angel of Death to pass over the homes of the Hebrews before their Exodus from Egypt. Jesus moved Mankind toward Christmas and on to Calvary. His death was so remarkable as well as the creator died for his creation.

As we approach Christmas and celebrate the birth of Christ will you come before him in humility and repentance? Will you look on the lamb and accept His sacrifice in your place? Will you recognize His kingship and authority, knowing he reigns forever.

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By Kevin Mathew

The Prophecy Fulfilled

Bethlehem wasn't chosen by chance. Centuries before Jesus' birth, the prophet Micah foretold this. "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times" (Micah 5:2).

Yet, Bethlehem was a small, quiet village, hardly the place one would expect a king to be born. This choice shows God's pattern of working through what seems insignificant by human standards to accomplish His extraordinary purposes.

The Humble Circumstances of His Birth

Jesus' arrival was marked by simplicity and humility. Born in a stable, likely a cave or a small shelter, His first bed was a manger, which was a feeding trough for animals. The Creator of the universe came not in splendor but in modesty.

The first people to hear of His birth weren't kings or religious leaders but shepherds, which were ordinary, hardworking individuals who were often overlooked in society. An angel appeared to them with the joyous proclamation: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:11-12).

By choosing shepherds as His first witnesses, God demonstrated that the Good News is for everyone, especially the humble and the marginalized.

Lessons from Bethlehem

The story of Bethlehem offers timeless lessons about God's character and His ways:

1. God's Power in Small Places: Bethlehem's insignificance mirrors how God often works through the ordinary to achieve the extraordinary. Throughout Scripture, God consistently chooses unlikely people and places to accomplish His will, from shepherd boys like David to fishermen like Peter. This shows that anyone with an understanding heart and fiery passion can be used by God for his glory. No matter how small or unimportant we may feel, God's plans can unfold through us in profound and life-changing ways, if only we choose to offer ourselves.

2. Humility Over Grandeur: Jesus' birth challenges our ideas of success and power. Jesus' humble beginnings teach us to value inner virtues like humility, kindness, and faithfulness. His life redefines greatness as servanthood and leadership as sacrifice, reminding us that true significance lies in our relationship with God and how we serve others. By embracing this perspective, we align our lives with God's kingdom, where the last are made first, and the meek inherit the earth.

3. Hope for the Lowly: In a world that often focuses on excess and status, the story of Bethlehem calls us back to simplicity and humility. It encourages us to concentrate on what truly matters: God's love, our faith, and the relationships we build with others. Just as Jesus came to a manger in Bethlehem, He meets us in the ordinariness of our lives. Whether we're in a season of joy or struggle, His presence transforms the mundane into something holy.

A Call to Reflection

Jesus Christ was the Savior of the World, the Child who changed everything. As the Bible says, the only Way to the Father, the only opportunity for salvation, is through Christ. Yet He was born in Bethlehem. The story of Bethlehem reminds us that God's greatest gift came wrapped in humility, yet it holds the power to change the world. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests" (Luke 2:14). May we carry the message of Bethlehem in our hearts this Christmas season and beyond.

Weekly Meetings

Date	Time	Location
Monday	10:30 AM	@ Church
Tuesday	7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	@ Zoom
Friday	10:00 AM - 11:00AM	@ Zoom
Saturday	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	@ Church

Mark Your Calendar

Event	Date	Location
Ladies Prayer Meeting	12/14	@Church
Christmas Get-Together	12/14	@Bro. Sam Malayil's House
Send-Off Meeting	12/15	@Church
Evangelism Event	12/21	@TBD
Fasting Prayer	12/27-12/29	@Church
Watchnight Service	12/31	@Church

Pray For Nations

Country	Capital	Population est.
Mali	Bamako	23,948,000
Malta	Valletta	550,100
Mauritania	Nouakchott	4,582,000
Mauritius	Port Louis	1,235,000
Mayotte	Mamoudzou	326,700