

THE FALL, THE WALL, THE CALL
DECEMBER 20, 2020

INTRODUCTION – LUKE 2:7-14

A father ended a family meeting with “let us make this our best Christmas ever.” His second-grade son said “Dad, I don’t see how we can improve on the first Christmas.” How can anyone do so when:

1. A teenager gave birth to the Son of God?
2. An angel came upon shepherds and God’s glory shone about them?
3. An angel proclaimed “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord?”
4. A heavenly host sang “glory to God in the highest, on earth...?”
5. A star guided wise men to the birthplace to worship and give gifts?

No matter what we do to try to make our Christmas celebration or service special, it pales in comparison to what took place when Mary brought our Savior into the world. Also, celebrating Christmas is meaningless if we don’t understand or have faith in what it’s all about.

PSALMS 40:1-3 – THREE POINTS

First, man is hopeless without God. Second, only God can help man. Third, true joy is found in salvation.

1. Man is hopeless without God. V2

- A. The fall. The condition of man when Jesus came was like one who fell into a cistern or pit. A pit was a prison, like the one Joseph was thrown into. A cistern stored water. If one fell in, there was no way out. After eating us out of house and home, Adam threw us into a miry pit of sin and spiritual death with no way out. Without God’s help, man is eternally lost.
- B. The wall. The opening was small, the floor was large and the walls were inverted. Getting out was impossible. David was stuck in the miry clay with no way of escape. Life has many pits with inverted walls we can fall into: Addictions, poverty, homelessness, anxiety, fear, bitterness, immorality, despair, low self-worth, but the worst is spiritual death.
- C. The call. A rescue party was sent out to comb the area and call out to the victim while listening for a response. When the victim’s voice was heard, he was rescued.
 - **GALATIANS 4:4-5** “Sent forth” is a Greek term for commissioning someone to do something.
 - **LUKE 19:10** God didn’t send Abraham, Moses, David, Isaiah, or the apostles. He sent His Son to seek and save the lost. **LUKE 5:32** Jesus calls out to walled in sinners. **MATTHEW 27:50-53** Jesus dealt with the walls of separation. **ROMANS 10:13** Those who call upon Him get saved.

2. Only God can help man.

- A. He calls out. **HEBREWS 3:15**
- B. He hears our cry. **PSALMS 40:1, ISAIAH 59:1-4**
- C. He lifts us up. **PSALMS 40:2a, JAMES 4:10**
- D. He sets our feet upon a rock. **PSALMS 40:2b** Miry clay to rock.
- E. He establishes our goings. **PSALMS 40:2c** Saved to serve.

3. Joy is found in salvation. PSALMS 40:3

- A. The word praise speaks of excellence. **PSALMS 126:1-3** Salvation produces unspeakable joy and excellent praise.

CONCLUSION: Man is stuck in the miry clay of spiritual death and doesn’t know it. He can’t escape from the inverted walls that hold him captive. Jesus heads up the search party and calls out to anyone who will listen. We too call out by witnessing. Whosoever answers the call and cries out to God gets rescued, and released from spiritual deaths walls.