

CALVRY MISSIONARY CHURCH, OWEN SOUND, ON
 SERIES: CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR...
 SERMON: CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR DIVINE INTERVENTION

2021 12 12

Week 1: Christmas is a time for Surrender
 Week 2: Christmas is a time for Love
 Week 3: Christmas is a time for Divine Intervention

As we look over the entirety of the Christmas story, we find it striking to recognize the amount of divine intervention – the miraculous activity of God in the lives of men. The story is one long litany of God’s divine activity. Let’s consider the following:

Galatians 4:4,5 says, *“But when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, so that he might redeem those who were under the law that we might receive the adoption as sons...”* At the RIGHT TIME, God acts...

Prophetic Messages:

This was no spur of the moment, sudden activity. From ages past it was God’s plan to redeem the world. The fulfillment of prophetic words demonstrates this:

Isaiah 7:14 *“Behold, a virgin shall conceive...”*

Matthew 1:21. *“She will bear a Son...”*

Micah 5:2 Jesus would be born in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:5: Luke 2:4)

Hosea 11:1 *“Out of Egypt have I called My Son.”* (Matthew 2:13-15)

Jeremiah 31:15. The slaughter of the babies in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16-18)

The prophets foretold that the Messiah would be called a Nazarene. (Matthew 2:23)

Immaculate Conception:

Isaiah 7:14. *“Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son....”*

Matthew 1:18. *“...she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.”*

Luke 2: 34 *“How can this be since I am still a virgin?”*

Angelic Visitations and Announcements:

Luke 1:1-22 The angel visited Zacharias in the temple to announce Elizabeth’s pregnancy.

Luke 1: 26-38 Gabriel visited Mary and announced her pregnancy.

Matthew 1:20 An angel visited Joseph in a dream and told him to take Mary as his wife.

Luke 2:8-18. The Angel(s) announced Jesus’ birth to the shepherds

Revelatory Dreams and Visions:

Matthew 1:20 Joseph was told in a dream that the baby boy was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 2:12. The Magi were warned in a dream to not return to Herod.

Matthew 2:13 Joseph was told in a dream to flee to Egypt

Matthew 2:22 Joseph was warned about Archelaus in a dream and told to go to Nazareth, rather than Bethlehem.

Cosmic Signs and Wonders:

Matthew 2:2 *“We have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”*

There was so much divine, super-natural activity involved in the Christmas story. Yes, it was a very unique time – those next thirty-plus years are the pivotal point in all of world history.

But let us not make the mistake of believing that there was only godly intervention ‘back then and back there.’ Remember, Mary was just an ordinary girl and Joseph was ‘nothing special’ – just a carpenter from the back hill country. But SUDDENLY.... But GOD...

We also are ‘nobody’s from no-where special.’ Even so, we believe that God is still at work in our day and in our lives. Not only that, we should watch for it; recognize it for what it is, and be thankful when we find it! We should long for it and invite God to be active in and through us.

Do we really believe that God is actually interested enough in us and in our lives to get involved in the details that impact us? Absolutely!

Here are some ways that God intervenes super-naturally in the life of His people:

First of all, the Father ‘draws’ us into relationship with Himself. (John 6:44)

The ‘new-birth’ is the supernatural work of the Spirit in our lives. (John 3:5)

He directs our steps by either giving us peace about a decision or by with-drawing His peace (Philippians 4:7)

The Spirit gives gifts of prophecy (1 Corinthians 14:3), discernment, (wisdom) and knowledge (facts). “My sheep hear my voice. (John 10:27)

He gives us wisdom (James 1:5). Why would we ask for wisdom if we don’t expect God to answer?

We ask God for Healing and for His miraculous supply of our needs. Why pray? Why ask? Why rely? Why trust? Because we believe and expect God to answer our prayers.

Christmas was a time for the miraculous, super-natural work of God; it still is – as is every day! Let’s be aware of His work in us. Let’s be co-operative what He wants to do. Let’s trust Him for more, for more of His power and the power of Holy Spirit to be displayed in our lives, in our day, in our generation! Let’s find peace in knowing that He works out His will, both in the intimate, tiny details of our lives and in world-changing events. Amen!