

CHRISTMAS #4
WHERE DID JESUS COME FROM?
ABOVE

We have learned that Jesus came from Nazareth the place of shame and rejection. He also came from Egypt a place of provision, protection, and prophetic direction. Last week he came from Bethlehem, a place of bread, a place of favor, a place of lowliness.

John 8 ²³ But he continued, “You are from below; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. NIV

I. We are of this world

“You are of this world”

The Greek word for “world” is **kosmos**.

How is man in this kosmos described by John?

The kosmos is the opposite of heaven. **There is something wrong with this world. Sin has invaded human flesh.**

Rom. 5 12 by one man sin entered the world...

1. There is **blindness** in it.

John 1 ¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, **the world did not recognize him**

2. They cannot **receive the Spirit of truth**.

John 14 ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him.

3. The world **hates Christ and his followers**

John 15 ¹⁸ **“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me** first. ¹⁹ If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.

II. He is from heaven

“..I am from above.... I am not of this world....”

1. His kingdom is not of this world **(it is eternal)**

2. Heaven is perfect. **(there is no sin, sorrow, or death there)**

3. Heaven is the abiding place of God. (there the glory of God radiates)

4. He is God!

I met a believer in Ireland who believed in the cross, death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus. He loved Jesus but did not believe he was God. He had been reached by a group known as “the way”. They taught that Jesus was not God. I want to establish this point.

Phi. 2⁶ Who, being in the **form of God**, thought it not robbery to **be equal with God**: KJV

Matt. 22⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them,⁴² “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?”
“The son of David,” they replied.

⁴³ He said to them, “How is it then that David, speaking by the Spirit, calls him ‘Lord’? For he says,⁴⁴ “**The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet.”**”⁴⁵ **If then David calls him ‘Lord,’ how can he be his son?”**⁴⁶ No one could say a word in reply, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions. NIV

Micah 5 2.... From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. **His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.** (He is before time!)

John 10³⁰ “I and the Father are one.”

1Co. 2⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the **Lord of glory.**

Colossians 1¹⁶ **For by him all things were created:** things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; **all things were created by him and for him.**¹⁷ **He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.**¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him.

III. He was sent to this world

1Jo. 4 ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. NIV

Why would the Father send the Son to this world?

The heart of the Father is revealed.

A. God (the Trinity) **created** the kosmos.

The kosmos is not separated from God. It was through his spoken word that the world was made. God has never abandoned it!

B. The kosmos is the **object of God's love**. (John 3:16)

C. The kosmos has been **affected by sin**.

The world is separated from God; and yet between it and God there is no gulf which cannot be spanned.

Thus God sent his Son into the world.

There is only one conclusion. **G.K. Chesterson** once said that there was only one thing certain about man: **man is not what he was meant to be**. There is only one thing certain about **the kosmos, it is not what it was meant to be**. Something has gone wrong. That something is sin. **It is sin which separated the world from God**; it is sin which blinds it to God; it is sin which is fundamentally hostile to God. (Barclay: The gospel of John vol. 2)

Into this world that has gone wrong comes Christ; **He brings forgiveness, cleansing, strength, and grace to live as a man should and to make the world what it ought to be**.

Only the acceptance of Jesus can cure the soul and the world.

Why did Jesus come to this world?

1. To reveal the **invisible God** - **Jn. 1:18; 14:9**
 2. To **fulfill prophecy** - **Gen. 3:15**
 3. To make a **sacrifice** for our sins - **Heb. 2:9; Heb. 10:4, 5, 10, 12; 1 Jn. 3:5; Mk. 10:45**
 4. To **reconcile** man to God - **2 Cor. 5:19; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6**
 5. To provide an **example for believers** - **1 Pet. 2:21; 1 Jn. 2:6**
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6. To provide the believer with a **high priest** – **Heb. 2:17; 3:1**
7. To **destroy the devil and his works** – **Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:8**
8. To destroy the **curse** – **Rom. 5:12**
9. To **heal the broken hearted** – **Luke 4:18**
10. To give **abundant life** – **John 3:36; 10:10**
11. To **glorify the Father** – **John 13:31; 14:13; 17:4**
12. To **comfort us** as we travel toward Heaven – **Heb. 4:15-16.**