

The Fullness of Time had come

Galatians 4:4-5

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A New Year ! 2015 -! A time to get organized and get serious about the time that we have to live our lives.

Interesting that the church calendar beginning was a few weeks back as we celebrated advent then Christmas. This week is Epiphany. Epiphany, " is a **Christian holiday commemorated on January 6. Celebrates the manifestation of God in the form of human flesh through Jesus Christ, his Son.** It commemorates the visit of the wise men (Magi) to the Christ child in Nazareth. Through the Magi, Christ revealed himself to the gentiles. What is interesting is that it happened two years after Jesus was born. In Gods timing

Today I want to talk about time. Fullness of time.

I often wish I had more time to accomplish things. things I would like to do. We all feel the pressures of life because of the pressures of time limitations. Time constant moving... Why did God create it? What is eternity? We know that God is not limited by or subject to time. We also know that time was the first thing that He created: "In the beginning..."

"The works of God, - bringing the matter of the world out of nothing in 6 days by the power of His word. But, we cannot detach the works of God in creation from the works of God in redemption. The apostle Paul seems to indicate, in two place in the New Testament, that time was created for Jesus Christ. In Romans 5:6 the apostle explains that it was "when we were still without strength, **in due time** Christ died for the ungodly;" and, "**In the fullness of time** God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, **born under the law**, that He might redeem those who were under the law" (Gal. 4:4).

God created time to carry out His plans. If there were no time, there would be nothing for which to hope. If there were no hope, there would be no faith. Human history is redemptive-history. The living God ordained creation, the fall, redemption, judgment and restoration for the manifestation of His glory. Time serves the outworking of this plan. This is why the same apostle could say, "Redeem the time for the days are evil."

God himself superimposed the events of History. From eternity he entered the constraints of time in order to secure for us a life of eternity.

From Genesis 3:15 God promises us that a redeemer would come, and this redeemer would crush the head of the serpent Satan, and provide atonement for the sin fallen condition of man.

For His plan and purpose *Ro 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

Paul further relates the purpose

We were all once slaves bound by the sins. We were controlled by the flesh and lived at its desire. Yet through Christ we have been set free from the bondage of sin and into the freedom of Christ.

Notice that Paul connects the coming of Christ with the fulfillment of the law. And so when we look at the context of this passage we can understand better **what kind of "fullness" Paul is talking about.**

Paul had to explain to these Christians what the purpose of the law was, because some of them were being told that if they wanted to go to heaven they had to be circumcised like they were in the Old Testament. So Paul explained to them when and why God gave them the law. The Law was introduced 430 years after God had given the promise of the Savior. As the Israelites lived, they began straying further and further away from God, so God sent the law through Moses, as a "big brother" prototype of Christ to look over the Israelites.

The law kept on condemning the Israelites, so they would look forward to a Savior. The law kept the Israelites from going too far astray from God.

The law did its job. When the Israelites broke the law, they went into captivity. They were punished. But finally after two different captivities under the Assyrians and the Babylonians, a remnant was left to survive under foreign rule in the land of Israel. In God's eyes, the time was right. It was time to send His Son, "born under the law." To fulfill the Law and give us Hope

We all know the Christmas story that the baby Jesus was born in a manger wrapped in swaddling clothes, and shepherds and wise men came to worship him. But the fullness of times goes beyond the little town of Bethlehem, goes beyond the manger, and the silent night to a cross Under the Law for you and me. It reaches back to eternity past, and stretches to eternity future, and confronts us now in this moment, 1/3/2015 and lets us know that God has something for you right now and today!

Don't waste time.

- we don't know the day nor the hour. ... Eternity awaits

Listen to His word from

Psa 90:12 So teach us to number our days, That we may get us a heart of wisdom.

Eph 5:15 Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise;

Eph 5:16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Let us heed the words of Jesus in Mark 1:15, "The time is **fulfilled,** and the kingdom of God is at hand.

Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Today, God is doing great things, magnificent things, miraculous things and many people are clueless. God is working out his eternal plan, every day, every moment, God is fulfilling time In his Grace by His Word and Sacraments to bring us to Salvation and Pointing us to His fullness of time God's purpose and plan is unfolded and revealed in Jesus.

Repent of always wanting to do it your way. Trust in God and lean on Him for your future. Don't let Satan get you on the ropes, and beat you up.

Just yield and trust and believe in Him. Let God lead and direct your paths in life every day.

Every day to bring us to Himself in heaven and then live forever in His fullness of time.