

The First Christmas

Luke 2:1-20

I. The Sovereignty of God (vs. 1-5)

A. God _____ in the kingdom of men.

- Daniel 4:17

“to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men”

B. Man rules only according to and in order to accomplish _____.

“and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men”

1. It appeared that Caesar was _____.

(vs. 1-3)

2. However, God used Caesar to _____
_____. (vs. 4-5)

a. Caesar’s decree was used to _____
_____.

- Micah 5:2

b. Rome prepared the way for the _____
_____.

- Galatians 4:4

The exact period of time had arrived when all things were ready for his coming.

(1) Roadways had been built for easy travel.

(2) Greek had become the common language.

(3) There was peace throughout the world.

(4) There was a messianic hope in Israel.

II. The Grace of God (vs. 6-7)

II Corinthians 8:9

From the splendor of heaven Christ came to the squalor of earth. The Incarnation was an incomprehensible

renunciation of spiritual and material glory. The One who was rich, who had everything, became poor, making Himself nothing.

- A. Born in poor _____ (v. 7)
- B. Born of poor _____ (vs. 22-24)
 - Leviticus 12:8
- C. He himself was poor.
 - 1. Poor in _____
 - Philippians 2:7
 - 2. Poor in _____
 - Luke 9:58
 - 3. Poor in _____
 - Isaiah 53:2
 - 4. Poor in His _____ (death)
 - Philippians 2:8

III. The Calling of God (vs. 8-20)

I Corinthians 1:26-29

- A. God chose the _____ to proclaim the birth of His Son. (v. 17)
 - “*despised*”: contemptible, least esteemed
 - Vincent’s Word Studies: Shepherds, as a class, were under the Rabbinic ban because of their necessary isolation from religious ordinances and their manner of life.
 - Genesis 46:34
“for every shepherd is an abomination unto the Egyptians”
- B. God chose _____ to be the parents of His Son. (v. 16)
“And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.”