

The Fullness of Time (Galatians 4:4-5)

Reading (Galatians 3:23-4:7) and Introduction

Christmas brings us to a position of *hopeful anticipation* that God will fulfill his promises.

1. “O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel” – *But when the fullness of time had come*

- a. politically (Roman influence)
- b. culturally (Greek influence)
- c. religiously (Jewish influence)

2. “Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see. Hail th’ incarnate Deity!” – *God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law*

- a. His Son – God’s very best as a gift to us!
- b. born of woman – truly man, truly God
- c. born under the law – to fulfill all righteousness

3. “Long lay the world in sin and error pining” – *to redeem those who were under the law*

- a. Mankind’s need is great
- b. The world needs redemption

4. “Joy to the world, the Lord is come!” – *so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

5. Application

- a. Our lives are microcosms of God’s plan of redemption
- b. Today is the day of salvation!
- c. Live in the hopeful anticipation of his second coming!