

The Family Prayer Center
615 Nassau Street
Immokalee, Fl. 34142
December 2021 Letter

8 Pounds That Changed the World

Dear Friend,

The Bible says in **John 3:16**, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

December is the month that we celebrate Christmas. This is the month that we commemorate the birth of Jesus the Christ into the earth.

One of the traditions of Christmas is the giving and receiving of gifts. But why? And where does this tradition originate? It goes much further than the legends of a man named Saint Nicholas who was born around 280 AD in the nation of what is known as modern day Turkey. Saint Nicholas was known for giving away all of his inherited wealth, and traveled the countryside helping the poor and the sick.

As wonderful as that story is, the original giver at Christmas was God. And the original gift was Christ. John tells us in his gospel that God so loved the world that He gave the greatest gift He could ever give to mankind, which was His only begotten Son.

Surprisingly, contrary to today's standards, this gift was neither airmailed nor delivered by Amazon. It did not come with glitz, sparkle, or glamour. It was not delivered to the doorsteps of a palace, but it came special delivery from God straight to an animal stable. It was then placed in the feeding trough of the cattle and sheep that were housed there.

Luk 2:7 And she [Mary, the mother of Jesus] brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Of course, we do not know the actual date or time of Jesus's birth, nor do we have any record of His physical size. Today, parents usually know the sex of their baby before the child is born, and the first information they announce after the birth is the size in length and weight.

Let's just say for fun and as an example that Jesus weighed 8 pounds at birth. That is a pretty typical weight for a bouncing baby boy. But this baby boy was anything but typical. We have the most unique 8 pounds ever to come into existence, lying in a manger.

Jesus was and is the most unique individual in the universe. In a very true sense of the word, we see deity coming to live inside physical human flesh. John's gospel starts by telling us how that deity transitioned into humanity.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

All physical matter of the universe originates from something. In this case, it is not something, but rather someone. Physical matter did not come into existence through a cosmic explosion called the “big bang,” but rather through the second member of the Godhead, who is referred to by John as the Word. All things were created by Him and for Him.

Col 1:16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.

So there we have it! 8 pounds lying in a manger, one that He himself in his deity millennia earlier created out of His own substance. But the most amazing aspect about this 8 pounds is that the word teaches us that He (the Word) laid down His deity for the purpose of redemption, and humbled Himself and became a man.

Php 2:6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

Php 2:7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Php 2:8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

What we can understand from these verses is that (the Word), who was God and the One that we now call Jesus the Christ, actually altered His own person and chose to no longer function as God during His existence on earth. God was in the flesh, but no longer functioned as God.

1Co 15:21 For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead.

Only by a sinless man could redemption be served. Only the last Adam could reverse the effects of the fall from the first Adam.

1Co 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *was made* a quickening spirit.

Only a man who had been quickened himself (having the life and nature of God) could become the spotless lamb who would redeem us back to God.

Only the birth of an 8 pound human being with the life and nature of God could once again reinstate the dominion of God through man over all the works of the devil. Only the coming of 8

pounds in a manger could set humanity free from sin, sickness, and poverty. God could not do it by Himself.

The 8 pounds in the manger did not remain there, but grew up! He did not just grow up physically, but He grew up spiritually into the full stature as the mature Son of God. He walked out His life in the flesh, baptized with the Holy Ghost and power. He became the Lord of the Church, and demonstrated to us the will of the Father for His Church in the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Where is our original 8 pounds in a manger now? Once again, His form has been altered. He is the glorified Christ, seated at the right hand of the Father. When John saw Him in Heaven in the book of Revelation, he described Him in this manner:

Rev 1:14 His head and *his* hairs *were* white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes *were* as a flame of fire;

Rev 1:15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

All of His deity (Godly attributes) are fully functioning once again in His glorified humanity! John said of Jesus in **Rev 1:17**, And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

Rev 1:18 *I am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

Rev 22:13 I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

We can most solemnly conclude by what John saw and heard from Jesus that He is no longer a babe in a manger. He is the Lord of the Church and the Lord of the armies of Heaven. He is the fearful-looking Savior, ready to serve vengeance on the enemies of the Church.

The Jesus with the eyes like fire is not afraid of COVID-19, nor any of its mutations, for His Church. He is not afraid of the antichrist liberal spirit that is trying to overthrow our nation. He is not afraid for His Church of any coming tribulation, but He is in a posture of expectation.

Heb 10:12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Heb 10:13 From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

What is Jesus expecting? He is expecting that you and I will become a spiritual conquering force in the earth. He is expecting that we will bring forth a great Harvest through an outpouring of God's Spirit we are calling Revival.

OUR CHRISTMAS BABY GREW UP! HE'S NO LONGER 8 POUNDS IN A MANGER, BUT HE IS THE LORD OF THE CHURCH EXPECTING SOMETHING FROM US!

When we give praise to God during this Christmas season for the coming of Christ, or when we wish anyone a Merry Christmas, let us do it with a consciousness that 8 pounds in a manger changed the destiny of the world through His coming. Thank you God for our Christmas gift from You that has changed our destiny forever.

Candy and I want to wish everyone from our house to yours a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Years! Thanks to everyone who helped us through prayers, giving, or both. Without you, what we do would not be possible.

Merry Christmas!

With all my love,
Pastor Bronc