Savior Come - cont.

"Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour. But for this cause came I unto this hour" (Jn. 12:27)

"... To this end have I been born, and to this end am I come into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice" (Jn. 18:37)

So, why did Jesus, my Savior, come to earth? The angel said he came to save mankind (Matthew 1:21). His close friend, John, said he came to save mankind (1 Jn. 3:8). The apostle Paul said he came to save mankind (1 Timothy 1:15). And, Jesus himself said he came to save mankind (Mt. 18:11; 20:28; Lk. 19:10).

What can we learn from Jesus' mission to the earth to save mankind? The Lord's mission of salvation should be my mission (Matthew 9:37-38). The Lord's mission of salvation should be the focus of this local church, not fun and food (I Thessalonians I:8). And, the Lord's mission of salvation should be the upmost concern of lost souls (Matthew I I:28-30). I, like Jesus, will make it my mission to be saved and to save others.

- Chris Reeves -

- Thought of the Week -

Many people today have "commitment issues". They will not commit to long-term relationships for various reasons. Some will not commit to a spouse in marriage, to a job, or to following Jesus. I know that I live in a world where many will not commit, but I will be different. I will follow Jesus and not forsake him or his people. I will not forsake the house of Lord!

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. - 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 - The question that makes up the title of this article was asked by John G. Dailey in 1892 when he wrote the song, Why Did My Savior Come to Earth? In the song, this question is answered: "Because he loved me so!" Simply put, Jesus came to earth because he loved you and me.

Many people today do not understand why Jesus really came to this earth. Jesus did not come to...

- Eradicate disease, even though he did heal some (Acts 2:22; 10:38).
- Remove poverty, even though he did help the poor (Luke 4:18-19).
- Bring about civil rights, even though he treated everyone properly (John 6:15).
- Feed the hungry, even though he did feed some (John 6:26-27).
- Improve education, even though he did teach spiritual lessons (Acts 4:13).
- Provide entertainment, even though he did some amazing things in miracles (John 2:1-2).

No, Jesus did not come for these reasons and many other reasons. He came to earth to save mankind from their sins because he loved all mankind and still does.

Why not let Jesus tell us in his own words why he came to earth? Here is what he said:

"Think not that I came to destroy the law or the prophets: I came not to destroy, but to fulfill" (Matthew 5:17)

"...for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners" (Matthew 9:13; Mark 2:17), "... I was not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 15:24)

"For I came to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law" (Matthew 10:35)

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, Because he anointed me to preach good tidings to the poor: He hath sent me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised" (Luke 4:18)

"But he said unto them, I must preach the good tidings of the kingdom of God to the other cities also: for therefore was I sent" (Luke 4:43; Mark 1:38) "I am not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance" (Luke 5:32)

"I came to cast fire upon the earth; and what do I desire, if it is already kindled?" (Luke 12:49)

"And I knew him not; but that he should be made manifest to Israel, for this cause came I baptizing in water" (John 1:31)

"For God sent not the Son into the world to judge the world; but that the world should be saved through him" (John 3:17)

"I am the living bread which came down out of heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: yea and the bread which I will give is my flesh, for the life of the world ... This is the bread which came down out of heaven: not as the fathers ate, and died; he that eats this bread shall live for ever" (John 6:51,58)

"And Jesus said, For judgment came I into this world, that they that see not may see; and that they that see may become blind" (John 9:39)

"The thief cometh not, but that he may steal, and kill, and destroy: I came that they may have life, and may have it abundantly" (John 10:10)