

Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study

Christmas Should Be All About Christ

Week of December 12, 2021 A.D.

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read John 8:58

1. Who existed first: (a) Abraham? or (b) Jesus? What does Jesus mean when he says, "I am"? Please explain why Jesus is "the eternal now". (See Exodus 3:13-14)

Read Philippians 2:5 - 8

2. Is Jesus equal to (and co-existent with) God the Father? When Jesus became a human, did he empty himself and surrender his "God powers"? Could Jesus have chosen to disobey God (a) by refusing to become man? and/or (b) by sinning while Jesus was on earth? How did Jesus humble himself and why did He do so?
3. Do all humans have the ability to "humble themselves"? If not, why not? If so, (a) how and (b) why would any person choose to do so and (c) what happens when a person does not humble himself?

Read 1 Corinthians 15:45 - 49

4. Can God have any fellowship with a sinful human? Are all humans sinners? Can any human enter the eternal kingdom of God and/or enter heaven without first receiving the "life-giving spirit" of the "last Adam"?
5. Did God have fellowship with "the first man Adam" prior to Adam's sinful disobedience? Was God pleased with Adam (a) before Adam sinned? and (b) after Adam sinned? Would personal fellowship between God and any human have any purpose or meaning if that fellowship existed only for the life of the human while on earth and ceased to exist when the human died?
6. Please explain (and discuss) the meaning of each of these five verses in the order in which they appear in this passage.

Read John 7:16 – 18, John 5:19, John 12:47-50

7. Did Jesus always do exactly what God the Father told Jesus to do? Did Jesus ever do anything that was not first authorized and directed by God the Father? Does God want every Christian to have the behavior habits of Christ?

Read Mark 6:4 - 6

8. Could Jesus do any particular action and/or miracle apart from the will of His Father and still “be without sin”? Does the working of miracles require faith by (a) the miracle worker, (b) the person who needs the miracle, and/or (c) both?
9. Is the gift of eternal life a miracle? Do these verses shed any light on what it means to “believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved”?

Read Hebrews 10:4 - 7

10. Where was Jesus personally located immediately before he was conceived in the womb of Mary? Did Jesus have the right and the freedom to disobey God the Father and to choose not to become a man? How do Santa Claus and the exchanging of gifts glorify Christ? Does the Bible tell us to annually celebrate the birth of Christ?

Read Revelation 13:8

11. Refer again to John 8:58. Refer to Revelation 13:8. Which came first, (a) God’s plan of salvation or (b) the creation of Adam and Eve? Did God know that Adam and Eve would rebel against God? Why did God give to Adam, to Eve, and to every human the freedom to choose to disobey God?

Read Romans 8:28-30

12. Does anything ever happen – in heaven or on earth – that is outside of the ability of God to control? Are these verses absolutely, positively always true? Based on the Bible verses which are mentioned this study, how does God want you to celebrate and observe this Christmas holiday season?

Consider: God’s desire for the human race always has been – and always will be – for all of mankind to glorify God and to enjoy God forever. Therefore, the glorification and enjoyment of God should be the focus of our celebration of Christmas. “You think about that.” Amen.