

## Precise Timing

Sunday Morning, December 4, 2016

Physicists in Germany have built the most accurate timepiece on Earth, achieving unprecedented levels of accuracy with a new atomic clock that keeps time according to the movements of ytterbium ions. Called an optical single-ion clock, the device works by measuring the vibrational frequency of ytterbium ions as they oscillate back and forth hundreds of trillions times per second between two different energy levels. These ions are trapped within an 'optical lattice' of laser beams that allows scientists to count the number of ytterbium 'ticks' per second to measure time so accurately, the clock won't lose or gain a second in several billion years.

Even though scientists have come up with what they feel is the best method for very precise timing, this new ability is nothing in comparison to God's very precise timing. We see God's precision of timing with the birth of Jesus. God tells us about His precise timing in

**(Galatians 4:4)**

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

The word "fullness" in the Greek is the English Word "repletion", which means "fulfillment of a need or a desire."

In other words, God watched for that precise time in humanity, (that He preordained) to send His only begotten Son. You see it was not just the precise time, but also the precise timing Jesus was sent into the world!

Have any of you seen that commercial where the farmer tells the harvester "...wait, wait..., Now!" and the fruit is then picked? It's with intensity and anticipation that God watched for the precise day and time that Jesus would be born! I bet He had placed a huge star on that day on His calendar of time!

World circumstances could not have been better for the Messiah to come or for the message of Salvation to come. John the Baptist was the first prophet on scene in 430 years. People were excited to hear what this prophet of God had to say. John the Baptist preached that there was One greater than he that would come. That being Jesus the Messiah!

Not only did the Jews wait for the Messiah, but the Gentiles waited for a Savior. For example: Magi

In addition to this there was one language in the known world, Greek, thanks to Alexander the Great. That meant that there were no language barriers to contend with, because of a universal language. Cultures that spoke in their native language had Greek as their second primary language. Jesus and the Disciples preached and taught God's Word in Greek, otherwise known as the Septuagint.

Rome was the ruling empire of the day. They're known for the roads they built to connect the known world, many of these roads are still used today. You could travel anywhere safely because it was the time of the "Pax Romano", i.e. "Roman Peace". Guards kept the roads safe. The message of the Messiah could go anywhere!

So, you see,

God's timing was precise, a perfect time and ripe for the world to hear the Good News of the Savior that was born!

God's desire to send His Son was "fulfilled" during a time when Israel was at the zenith of hope & expectation of the Messiah's coming.

We have one example of this in **(Luke 2: 25 – 32)**

25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. 27 So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, 28 he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said:

29 "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word;

30 For my eyes have seen Your salvation

31 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, 32 A light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel."

Another example of the Jews eagerly awaiting the Messiah is found in **(Luke 2: 36 - 38)**

36 Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; 37 and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. 38 And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

So, how does the Birth of Jesus affect us? Let's look at **(Galatians 4:4 again and verse 5)**.

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

**(Romans 8:1 - 2)**

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

"God makes the sons of men, sons of God and God makes His Son the Son of Man." *Unknown*

When we believe in who Jesus is and what He did, we are no longer condemned.

Because Jesus was born a human being, He as God in the flesh was sent to fulfill the Law as a man, not sinning once. He fulfilled the ceremonial laws of the Jews. He then took all mankind's sin upon Himself, making Him guilty rather than those who put their faith in Him. He provided a way of Salvation from punishment in Hell and provided eternal life in the presence of God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit!

God the Father sent His Son Jesus at the precise time when the message of the Savior could impact the World with the greatest message the World could ever hear and know.

**(Luke 2: 11)**

11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

**What Can You Do?**

1. Go Share the Message of the Messiah's Birth.
2. Invite those you know to Church or to the Christmas Play on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>.
3. Praise God for His Precise Timing and Fulfillment of His desire to bring Salvation to us!

**Invitation & Lord's Supper**

As Christians we have been sealed in the blood of Christ and are a part of a new covenant with the Lord. The Lord's Supper is a reminder of the incredible cost to God for us to enter into the new covenant. We need to examine ourselves, because if one member of the body is out of fellowship with God, it affects the whole body. That is the nature of this new covenant that we remember today. This is our opportunity to examine our relationship with Christ and to be restored to the blessings of a covenant relationship. Through a revived people, God can make an impact in our church, our community, our state, our nation and the world.

**(Matthew 26: 26 – 29)**

<sup>26</sup> And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."

<sup>27</sup> Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you."

<sup>28</sup> For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

<sup>29</sup> But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."