



Who Are We and Why Are We Here

Part 6: The Passion of Purpose

One intersection. Four corners. Four witnesses. The result: four versions of one collision. Of course, ask any one of the witnesses, and you will be assured that the facts you are hearing are complete and accurate.

As we look forward to the celebration of Christmas, many see only through the lens of the common cultural traditions. And even for those whose perspective still includes the story of the Christ child, they are often much like the witness at the intersection who sees only a part of the picture.

So let's begin on this premise: the Christmas account has never been the whole story.

The birth of the Child is incomplete without the account of the Man who healed the sick and preached the good news of Kingdom of God, or the sacrifice on a Roman cross, or the power of a resurrected Christ. In this season, we are focused on a single story captured in the moments of time with its origin nestled in eternity. This is a narrative birthed even before the world of time and space existed. This is the epic of love that extends past all temporal limits and will forever be the resounding theme of an eternity with the God whose covenant with His people has no end.

For several weeks we have been centered on the issue of purpose, and as we have noted, the search for our own sense of purpose as God's people leads us to a single point: the eternal purpose of God Himself. In us, He is honored and praised, and through us He is to be revealed as the God of truth and grace to a world who searches for both.

As we celebrate this Christmas, may we be vividly reminded that the Christ by whom the world was formed and in whom it is sustained was so fixed on His eternal purpose that He chose to set aside the glory of His Father's presence and become the Emmanuel, God with us. The God whose purpose and passion does not change, whose grace consumes Him, chose nevertheless to forever change Himself to experience His covenant as one of us.



Taking Our Next Step Together

Lord, may we become people of purpose. Fill us with the same passion of purpose that brought You from Your Father's side to a manger bed as one of us. May we yield ourselves to be instruments of Your purpose for us to shine the light of Your grace and hope in lives so void of either that they have yet to discover they are blind.