

Jesus Came to Earth in the Flesh
(1 John 4:1-3)

Introduction:

1. In vs.1 John gave a strong warning to the Lord's followers.
 - a. We must not believe everything we hear.
 - b. We must not believe everything we hear because there are many false prophets in the world.
 - c. We are to examine the things we hear (Acts 17:11).
2. In vs.2-3 John contrasted 2 doctrines.
 - a. In vs.2 John mentioned the fact that true teachers confess that Jesus came in the flesh -- this is the Spirit of God.
 - b. In vs.3 John showed how false teachers do not confess that Jesus came in the flesh -- this is the spirit of antichrist.
3. Based on these verses written by the apostle John, believing that Jesus came to earth in the flesh is a matter of utmost importance.
4. As we study this subject, let us keep in mind the admonitions given in:
 - a. 2 Peter 3:18
 - b. John 5:39.

Discussion:

- I. THE SCRIPTURES DECLARE THAT JESUS CAME TO EARTH IN THE FLESH
 - A. John began his Gospel (John 1:1-3) by showing how the Lord's existence is eternal.
 - B. However, he continued in John 1:14 by stating that Jesus came in the flesh.
 - C. This great event was announced before it took place.
 1. The angel Gabriel spoke to Mary about it (Luke 1:26-38).
 2. An angel informed Joseph about it (Matthew 1:18-25).
- II. THE SCRIPTURES REVEAL WHEN JESUS CAME TO EARTH IN THE FLESH
 - A. Jesus was born when Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem (Luke 2:1-7).
 - B. This was prophesied many years earlier in Micah 5:2 (Matthew 2:3-6).
 - C. Although we do not know the exact time of the Lord's birth, we learn from Galatians 4:4 that God sent His Son when the time was right according to His time schedule.
- III. THE SCRIPTURES TEACH US WHY JESUS CAME TO EARTH IN THE FLESH
 - A. He came to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-18).
 - B. He came to call sinners to repentance (Matthew 9:12-13).
 - C. He came to preach (Mark 1:38).
 - D. He came to serve others and to give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45).
 - E. He came to seek and to save the lost (Luke 19:10).
 - F. He came to do the Father's will (John 6:38).
 - G. He came so we might have life and have it more abundantly (John 10:10).
 - H. He came to be tempted so He could serve as our High Priest (Hebrews 2:16-18).

Conclusion:

1. We have covered a number of passages that relate to the Lord's coming to earth in the flesh.
2. Perhaps we can better appreciate the words we read earlier (1 John 4:1-3).
3. Have you allowed the Lord to save you?