

GALATIANS 4:4-5

“When the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under the Law that we might receive the full rights of sons.”

Eternally existent, fully God, sufficient to satisfy sin's price before a holy God.

Born of a woman – Fully man, in order to be an appropriate substitute for our fallen race



“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Who being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.”

- Phil. 2:5-7

“made himself nothing”

Kenosis “Self emptying”

Jesus didn't empty himself of His deity when 'the Word became flesh,' but He did set aside certain privileges, including:

Heavenly glory

Independent authority

Divine prerogatives

Eternal riches

A favorable relationship with God

(MacArthur)



IDENTIFYING WITH 'THE LEAST OF THESE'

Luke 2:21-35

HE BECAME POOR...

Vs. 21 “On the eighth day...circumcise”
(Gen. 17:12; Lev. 12:1-3)

Vs. 22 “the time of their purification, according to the
Law of Moses” (See Lev. 12:2-5)

“To present Him to the LORD” (Ex. 13:2,12-15)

Vs. 24 “A pair of doves or two young pigeons” A gracious concession to the poor

Jesus Christ, fully God yet fully man, from birth lived under the Law.

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” - Jesus, Matt. 5:17



VSS. 25-32

Simeon, righteous and devout

“the Consolation of Israel” A title for the Messiah

“the Holy Spirit was upon him” A reminder of the eternal nature of the third person of the Godhead



“Your Salvation” Not ‘one of Your salvations’

“prepared in the sight of all people” Yet not all see...

“Light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel” In Him we have HOPE!

VSS. 33-35

The prophetic word over the newborn King, with hints of Isaiah 53, 1 Peter 2:8, 1 Cor. 1:18-25, ultimately describes Israel's rejection of their Messiah and the true condition of the nation's heart.

The prophecy continued with an ominous message to the young mother...

“a sword will pierce your own soul too.”



“But He was pierced for our transgressions,
He was crushed for our iniquities;
the punishment that brought us peace was upon Him,
and by His wounds we are healed.”

It was the Lord's will to crush Him and cause Him to
suffer...

He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for
the transgressors.” - Isa. 53:5,10,12