

LESSON 03

Foundations Curriculum

Why Did Jesus Come into the World?

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Introduction

Why Did Jesus Come into the World?

In this third lesson of the Foundations Curriculum, we will explore where and when God's eternal purpose began: before the creation of the world. Why did Jesus come into the world? Who is the person of Christ in our lives? This event is so significant that it divided the calendar and the history of humanity. That is what we will address in this lesson.

1) Creation

Everything began in Genesis, before the creation of the world

God has given us a written story from beginning to end, from Genesis to Revelation. And Jesus — His life, His coming, His work, His departure, and His return — is the heart of that story.

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion

over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image

of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Genesis 1:26–27 (NKJV)

This passage from Genesis shows the beginning of the story God wrote. One day, in eternity, the desire arose in God's heart to have children — children made in His own image and likeness. So God created the heavens, the earth, and everything in them; and on the sixth day of creation, God created man.

The Creator set in motion the process of forming the family He desired — children who resembled Him. He formed the woman, gave her to the man, and said: "Now be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." In other words: "I want many children."

But then came the Fall!

The fall of man created a problem in God's plan. Before the couple had their first child (who would have been perfect), the serpent — the devil, the adversary of God — visited the man in the garden where he lived.

God had told the man not to eat from the tree of "the knowledge of good and evil," for he would surely die. But the serpent argued the opposite: it said he would not die.

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

Genesis 3:4–6 (NKJV)

With the fall of man, the children born to this couple came into the world as sinners. They were no longer perfect as God is.

Man is always divided between the counsel of God and the counsel of the ungodly — between the truth of God and the lie (which proceeds from the devil).

And behind every counsel of the ungodly and every lie stands the devil, who is the prince of this world.

Man, then, seized by the temptation to be equal to God — to have the knowledge of "good and evil" and to be independent (to govern and do his own will) — following his own way, took the fruit and ate it.

The consequences were terrible, as we all know well.

2) The Fall

What consequences came as a result of the Fall?

Through sin, man became corrupted by the pride and arrogance of knowledge and lost his purity. Rebellion and wickedness entered the human heart, and man was ruined for the purpose established by the Creator!

As we know, sin entered the world through man (Adam).

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.

Romans 5:12 (NKJV)

The human condition had become this: corruption.

Sin entered the world and man became useless for God's purpose. God wanted — and still wants — a family of children who resemble Him, but man no longer reflects His image and glory, "for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23, NKJV).

At every stage of His creation, God looked and saw that it was good. But after God created man, He looked and saw that it was very good! Yet now, looking upon His creation, He says:

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the LORD said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them."

Genesis 6:5–7 (NKJV)

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth.

Genesis 6:11–12 (NKJV)

Summary

GENESIS 1	GENESIS 3	GENESIS 6
GOD INITIATES HIS PURPOSE WITH THE CREATION OF MAN.	SATAN INTERFERES IN GOD'S PURPOSE AND LEADS MAN INTO SIN.	MAN BECOMES CORRUPT AND GOD GRIEVES OVER HIS CREATION.

But God has a purpose and did not abandon it because of the fall of man. How did God move forward from here?

God made several "attempts." He did this not because He did not know what would happen, but to demonstrate in later times that there was only one solution for the restoration of all things — so that we could look back and see what God tried and what did not work. God proved to us that there was only one way.

Attempts:

- He tried through a family: Noah. With a family of 8 people, He attempted to restart the human race.
- He tried through one man: Abraham.
- He tried through demanding laws: Moses.
- He tried through prophets and kings.

But man remained the same.

Pride, arrogance, wickedness, rebellion, and every consequence of sin remained. There was nothing that could solve the problem.

After several millennia of history, the apostle Paul describes the condition of man:

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them,

for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man — and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. 24 Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, 25 who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. 26 For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

Romans 1:18–32 (NKJV)

10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; they have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one."

Romans 3:10–12 (NKJV)

The passages above confirm that man remained unchanged, and so the moment arrived for God to send the solution — the only solution truly capable of changing this situation. Not merely a solution for man. A solution for all of God's problem: Jesus.

3) The Second Adam: God's Purpose Being Restored

At what point did this situation change?

In the fullness of time, at the moment determined by the sovereignty of God, Jesus came into the world.

History needed a second Adam. The human race needed to be restarted. God needed to transform man — who had become useless for His purpose — into a new man. A man who would reflect His glory. God still wants children who resemble Him.

Jesus is that man! Jesus is the second Adam! Jesus is the firstborn of this new race. Just as we were born of Adam, we now need to be born again in Christ Jesus, to become participants in this new race — which will live forever after the restoration of all things.

Observe the Difference

THE FIRST ADAM	THE SECOND ADAM
Wanted to be equal to God.	Did not consider equality with God something to be grasped.
Wanted to be independent and ungoverned.	Submitted Himself in all things.
Disobeyed.	Was obedient, even to death.
Desired knowledge.	Spoke and did nothing of Himself.
Wanted glory.	Laid aside His glory.
Sinned.	Is holy.
Wanted to be God.	Became man.
Filled himself.	Emptied Himself.
Wanted to be lord.	Became a servant.
The first Adam is dead.	The second Adam is alive!

And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God;

nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your sting? O Death, where is your victory?" The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:45–57 (NKJV)

With the coming of Jesus into the world, man can now receive a new chance — new life. He came into the world so that man would not perish but have eternal life. Whoever believes in Jesus, as the Scripture says, will live; whoever does not believe will perish.

4) The Message Proclaimed

What must man do if he wishes to continue being part of the story written by God?

Peter, in one of his messages to the people, made the message of repentance and salvation very clear:

"Yet now, brethren, I know that you did it in ignorance, as did also your rulers. But those things which God foretold by the mouth of all His prophets, that the Christ would suffer, He has thus fulfilled. Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.'"

Acts 3:17–23 (NKJV)

Repent, believe in Jesus and in His gospel, be baptized in Christ, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus came not only out of love for man, or to save man; far more than that, He came out of love for the Father and for the Father's purpose. This story is not merely the story of human beings. It is the story of God, of His kingdom, of His eternal purpose. It is a story that begins before the

foundation of the world — before the world even existed — and that extends throughout all eternity!

The passage from Ephesians may serve as a summary of this story:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth — in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Ephesians 1:3–14 (NKJV)

The details of the life and work of Jesus, and how man can become a participant in God's eternal purpose, will be addressed in future studies.

May the Lord bless us!

CONCLUSION

In this third lesson we have learned about the story of God's purpose, which began before the foundation of the world. God had a desire in His heart and created man for that purpose, but sin and the Fall disrupted the plan and brought terrible consequences. Yet God did not change His purpose, and for that reason Jesus came. He did not come merely to save man from hell; His greater reason was to form a family of saints for His Father — to gladden the heart of the Father. That is why Jesus came into the world.

CONSIDER CAREFULLY

01 Have you grasped the full significance of Jesus for the Father?

- 02** Have you fully embraced this Jesus — in faith, surrender, and love for Him?
- 03** Are you content that Jesus came merely to save you from hell, or do you embrace the greater reason for His coming — to form a family of saints for His Father?
- 04** Do you regularly compare your thoughts, feelings, and conduct to those of Jesus?

SUPPLEMENTAL READING:

1 John 4:10 | Hebrews 12:2 | Genesis 6:7 | Revelation 13:8

*having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.*

Ephesians 2:20 (NKJV)

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