

**NCF Sermon : Jesus, born to die on the cross!**

**Rom 8:37** No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

**Rom 8:38** For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

**Rom 8:39** nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Christmas -**

Just Christian Holiday in Korean culture - it's Christian Holiday  
 Christian introduced the Nativity Story and became Christmas Tradition  
 However Christmas is not only about Jesus' birth but about Jesus' life and death

**Jesus is the most distinctive and important part of Christianity**

Then important question is :

- Who is Jesus? How was he born?
- What did he do?
- What happened to him?
- How did he leave the world?

**Today's focus : How did he come and go? - His Life & Death**

**One of the ways to approach to Bible - Narrative**

It's good to find/understand Jesus life in this big bible story

Narrative of the Bible : Story about

- Creation
- Fall
- Cross(Jesus) - Death but Resurrection
- Redemption
- New Creation

1. **Creation** : "God saw that it was good" - Shalom

2. **Fall** : Shalom broken - Changes in the relationship with God, one another

Before sin	After sin
Intimacy with God, one another Freedom Joy Happiness Authority - Dominion No shame Etc.	Brokenness in relationships Slavery Sadness, bitterness Unhappiness Lost dominion - under rulers, authorities etc. Guilt, shame etc.
Shalom - Life	Death

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- After the fall, sin continuously multiplied -
- God chose and saved one Family - Noah's family but sins still multiplied
- God chose another family - Abraham's family
  - Calling : to be the blessings to all the families on the earth(Gen12:3)
  - old covenant - Abraham's descendant became nation
  - God's Kingdom - but failed - old covenant broken

3. **Jesus' birth & death**

- His conception - faced the threat infanticide - power of death
- He was born in a manger - The world didn't welcome his birth
- Had to run away from King Herod as soon as he was born - power of death
- Was not welcomed/accepted by his brothers - rejection
- Every disciple ran away from him -rejection

**BUT Satan tried to stop his birth**

- Time of Moses - feticide/genocide
- In southern kingdom - queen Athaliah tried to kill all the royal family
- Time of Esther - attempt to annihilate Jews
- Time of Jesus - genocide by King Herod

**Jesus was born at the cost of numerous people**

**The death on the Cross - The symbol of Christianity**

- Unique death : Crucifixion - most painful and humiliating execution
- Why cross is significant symbol for Christians?
- DEATH but Resurrection from death - Jesus broke the power of death

**4. Redemption - The work of the cross, result of the cross**

**The Cross - The pivotal point to turn us back to God's original creation status - Shalom**

Before sin	After sin	Cross	After Cross - before sin
Intimacy with God, one another Freedom Joy Happiness Authority - Dominion No shame Etc.	Brokenness in relationships Slavery Sadness, bitterness Unhappiness Lost dominion - under rulers, authorities etc. Guilt, shame etc.	Redemption - Reconciliation	Intimacy with God, one another Freedom Joy Happiness Authority - Dominion No shame Etc.

**1. Sins forgiven? Sure about that? - Intimacy by God's forgiveness**

**2. The Power of death broken -**

**Cycle of power of death :** Confusion - doubt / unbelief(sin) - disappointment/frustration - depression - death wish(contract with the spirit of death) - suicidal attempt

**Rom 8:34** Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

**Rom 8:35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?

**Rom 8:36** As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

**Rom 8:37** No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

**Rom 8:38** For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,

**Rom 8:39** nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

- **Satan - good at deceptions, lyings “we are still the same as before, nothing ever happened to us”**

**Joh 10:10** The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

- we will surely feel the same stress, struggles.
  - the sign of restoration, healing is not having the the past feelings, same struggles
  - We will have the control(dominion) over them instead of being the victim, slaves not slaves
- **no condemnation**  
Rom 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.  
Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.  
  
Gal 5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

5. **New Creation** - This is the promise of God even in the Old Testament prophet like Isaiah. We are redeemed but still living in the world of tension. "now and full yet tension".

**Genesis (1-3)**

**Revelation (20-22)**

Heaven and earth (1:1)

New heaven & earth (21:1)

Darkness (1:2)

No night (21:25)

Sun and moon (1:5)

No sun or moon (21:25, 22:5)

Death (2:17)

No more death (21:4)

Serpent – deceiver (3:1)

Devil destroyed (20:10)

Sin enters Garden (3:6-7)

Nothing unclean (21:27)

Satan's triumph (3:13)

Lamb's triumph(21:1)

Curses (3:14)

Nothing accursed (22:3)

Pain multiplied (3:16)

No more pain (21:4)

Death (3:19)

Death destroyed (20:14)

Out of garden (3:24)

See God's face (22:4)

Tree of life guarded (3:24)

Tree of life available (22:2)

Home is where my struggles and weakness can be transparently displayed. Christmas is when we can be easily vulnerable, stressed by being with family. However let's think not only about Jesus' birth but also death : his love, grace and power that he left us through this death.

We have assurance that God is restoring Shalom day by day to bring us back to our real home, Garden of Eden, the place of Shalom!