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Doctrinal Studies Bible Church
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Series: Book of Galatians

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Galatians.4:4-5
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FULLNESS OF TIME

The Fullness of Time is the Greek phrase, to pleroma tou chronos.

Chronos – duration of time; succession of time (chronology).

Chronos was used to show succession of biblical history of Christ beginning with Adamic covenant (Gen.3:15) to Abrahamic covenant (Gen.12:1-3; Gal.3:8, 16) to Davidic covenant (2 Sam.7:11-16; Rom.1:1-4; Matt.1:1) to New covenant (Jer.31:31-33; 1 Cor.11:25; 2 Cor.3:6).

Pleroma – pleroo/ to fill plus suffix of result (ma) or fullness or completion of OC messianic chronology.

Pleroma was used to show the completion of Old Covenant messianic chronology with the incarnation of Jesus Christ – “Born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.” (Gal.4:4-5)

I.S.B.E – **to pleroma tou chronos** -“the fullness of the time is that portion of time by which the longer antecedent period is completed.” (vol.2, pg.1148/ OC messianic chronology)

<p style="text-align: center;">This lesson will study <u>three aspects</u> of the Fullness of Time that climaxed with the Incarnation of Jesus Christ.</p>

1. The Fullness of Time teaches that the birth of Jesus Christ occurred in perfect timing in the plan of God in human history. (Gal.4:4-5; Eph.1:10).

Fullness of Time involved prophetic places [Bethlehem] (Micah 5:2; Matt.2:6).

It involved prophetic nations and policies. [Roman census and Egypt] (Luke 2:10-11; Matt.2:13-15; Hos.11:2).

It involved prophetic people [The Magi, Mary and Temple Shepherds] (Num24:17; Matt.1:22-23; Isa.7:14; Luke 2:8-20).

The Fullness of Time involved prophetic purpose (Gal.4:4-5; Rom.5:6).

2. The Fullness of Time teaches that God is in control of His Plan and human history (Eph.1:19-23).

(Luke 2:10-11) “But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be **for all people**; for today in the city of David there has been born **for you a Savior**, who is Christ the Lord.” (Gabriel to Temple shepherds)

God is in control no matter who thinks they are! (John 19:9-12) [Pilate, Caesar Augustus, Quirinius, Magi, Herod the Great, and the Sanhedrin].

Notice how:

- The days of the decree of Caesar Augustus became
- The days of the census of Quirinius that became
- The days of Joseph and Mary traveling to Bethlehem that became
- The days of the birth of Christ that became
- The days of the angelic visit to the Temple shepherds that became
- The days of the arrival of the Magi that became
- The days of Herod the Great who slaughter the Bethlehem babies that became
- The days of traveling to Egypt

Because God is responsible for the details of The Fullness of Time.

3. Fullness of Time also teaches the importance of God being in control of the lives of spiritually advancing believers.

It is important that CABs are spiritually ready to participate in the fulfillment of the Plan of God, unfolding in human history.

Thousands of years of Messianic prophecies have waited to be fulfilled in the First Advent of Jesus Christ – through the lives of spiritually advancing believers.

(Luke 1-2) record seven Old Covenant spiritually advancing believers who participated in that event.

- Elizabeth and Zacharias (Luke 1:6, 13-17, 25)
- Mary and Joseph (Luke 1:28, 31-35, 38; Matt.1:19, 24-25)
- Temple shepherds (Luke 2:10-14)
- Simeon (Luke 2:25-35/ 25 -26)
- Anna (Luke 2:36-38)

Church Age Believers live in the Fullness of Time awaiting the Second Advent of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.11:26). It is important to participate in it every day.

When we leave Luke 2, Jesus enters His ministry:

(Luke 3:23a) “And when He began His ministry, Jesus Himself was about thirty years of age.”

Once again we are taught that God is in control of His Perfect Plan, human history and the individual spiritually advancing Church Age Believer.

(Luke 3:1-2) “Now in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip was tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and “Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, in the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John, the son of Zacharias, in the wilderness.”

(Gal.4:4-5) “But **when the fullness of time came**, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, **in order that He** might redeem those who were under the Law, **that we might** receive the adoption as sons.”

(Rom.5:6) “For while we were still helpless, **at the right time** Christ died **for the ungodly.**”

(1 Tim.1:15; 1 Cor.15:3-4; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9; John 10:28-30)