

LORDSHIP

RULE/AUTHORITY

—BORN TO DIE—

“She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”
—Matthew 1:21

Expecting a child, especially your first, is one of the most amazing and uncertain times a parent can have, and it is the closed thing to creating life we humans will have. Will it be a boy or girl? Then all the “what if’s” about raising a child come flooding in. Most of all you just want it to be healthy, the ten and ten rule. Ten fingers and ten toes.

You are consumed with the thoughts of life, the changes that you know are coming but more so the thoughts of a life that you are being blessed with to bring into the world. For my wife and I there was something else to contend with, a “complication.”

That is not what you want to hear as a parent, nor the result of what that could mean, as we were told, death. But there was one special child who was born with a specific purpose and his name was Jesus, the one who was born to die.

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Jesus was born into this world just like you were in a small no nothing province of the Roman empire of Palestine in an even smaller village named Bethlehem, to parents who poor and part of a small Jewish heritage from the line of King David. Who then grew up in a no nothing, backwater, community called Nazareth.

However, in between his birth and his death was his living. Jesus' life and what he accomplished by living is just as important as what he did in his death. Jesus lived righteously, perfectly, holy, without sin so that in his death he could give, all the rest of humanity who is full of sin, his righteousness to us. But in order to be able to give that gift, he had to die in our place. That is why he came putting all God's glorious love on display.

In doing so, we can have the free gift of forgiveness and life. However, there is a catch to receive gift of grace in salvation, you must humble yourself and die so that you can live. Paul says it this way, be a "living sacrifice", Romans 12:1-2.

How is God calling you to surrender to Him by dying to self and to live for Him?