

How can a baby born 2000+ years ago cause us to stop for one day of the year?

Because He was no ordinary baby! *God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son... John 3:16 (tlb)*

Jesus entered the world, just like everybody else - as a baby! *For unto us a child is born... Isaiah 9:6*

## **WHY DID JESUS COME TO EARTH?**

Jesus went from a crib to the cross to become our Saviour. He was born into a death sentence.

**Five times in *Matthew* Jesus** specifically says why He came and what He hoped to accomplish.

## **A ‘GAVEL’ IN A COURTROOM.**

A ‘gavel’ is a wooden mallet used by a judge to bring proceedings to a start and to an end and to command attention in the courtroom.

*Matthew 5:17 (nlt) Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.*

The image of a gavel in a courtroom brings out the reality of each of us standing before the Judge and being declared guilty.

It's through Jesus' perfection and sacrifice that we are declared not guilty through repentance.

## **THE 'GATES' OF A COUNTRY CLUB.**

*Matthew 9:13 (amp) "Go and learn what this Scripture means: I desire compassion for those in distress, and not animal sacrifice, for I did not come to call to repentance the self-proclaimed righteous who see no need to change, but sinners those who recognize their sin and actively seek forgiveness."*

Do you know what it's like to be on the outside looking in?

Many feel they will never be good enough to be accepted by God. The good news about the cross of Jesus is that it is for the outsiders looking in.

## **A 'LINE' IN THE SAND.**

*Matthew 10:34 (esv) Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.*

Jesus drew a line in the sand. The cross was a defining moment in history.

The cross of Jesus is confronting because it demands that we make a decision to what side we will stand!

## **A 'RAFT' IN THE OCEAN.**

*Matthew 18:11 (nkjv) For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost.*

We were lost, and Jesus is the one who came to save us when we couldn't save ourselves!

## **A 'SLAVE' ON THE AUCTION BLOCK.**

*Matthew 20:27-28 (nlt) ...whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. <sup>28</sup> For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Sin imprisons people.

We're like a slave on the auction block who cannot pay for our own freedom.

Jesus came and purchased our freedom from condemnation, sin and sickness.

**This is why Jesus came to earth!**