Jeremiah 23:5-6

5 The days are coming,” declares the LORD, “when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. 6 In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.

Galatians 4:4-5

4 But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, 5 to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

God’s plan for Christmas

2 Key promises to His people:

The first promise (2,200 years before Christ) = Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3) - A great nation that would be a blessing to all peoples.

The second promise (1,000 years before Christ) = King David (2 Samuel 7:12-16) - His Kingdom and throne would be established forever.

These 2 promises were the foundation of God’s plan for the salvation of the world.

God affirmed these promises in over 300 O.T. prophecies of the Messiah.

Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus (Mt. 1) highlights that Jesus was the fulfillment of God’s promises to Abraham and David. God was working throughout 2,000 years of Israel’s history to bring about the fullness of time.

God was also working throughout the history of the world and other nations to bring about the fullness of time.

“History” is “His Story”

Why did God send Jesus in the 1st century?

1) The Jews - prepared the world for the concept of monotheism (1 true God)

2) The Greeks/Alexander the Great - gave the world a common language (Koine Greek)

3) The Romans/ Pax Romana “Roman Peace” - created roads & safety of travel

“When the time had fully come, God sent his Son”
Philippians 2:5-11
Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:
Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Revelation 21:1-5
Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Habakkuk 2:2-3
Then the LORD replied: “Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.

Isaiah 40:26-31
Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing. Why do you say, O Jacob, and complain, O Israel, “My way is hidden from the LORD; my cause is disregarded by my God”? Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.
1 Peter 5:6-7
6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 7 Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

The God of Christmas always shows up in the fullness of time!