Introduction:

After 400 years of silence God spoke "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, along the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles - the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned" (Matthew 4:15-16). The prophets and even angles had longed to understand the very things that they were commanded regarding this very moment in time (1 Peter 1:10-12).

Now in 4-6 BC Jesus the Christ lie in a manager in Bethlehem. The king who will eternally sit upon the thrown of David was born to Joseph and Mary. Angles appeared to nearby shepherds praising God saying "glory to God in the highest" (Luke 2:8-14). All signs had pointed to Christ and as the apostle Paul puts it "all things are summed up in Christ" (Eph. 1:10). The Hebrew writer in Hebrews 9:26 calls this the consumation of the ages. The mystery in Christ has been revealed through the manifold wisdom of God (Eph 3:7-10). We will let Luke sum up the introduction in Acts 4:12 by saying "there is no other name under heaven given by which men must be saved".

Lesson

I. Leaving the Old Testament

Promise of Elijah to come Malachi 4:5
Fulfillment was John the Baptist (Matthew 11:14; Mark 1:3-8; Lk 1:17)
Message of "Repent, the kingdom of heaven is near"
Preparing the way for the Lord
Forerunner of Christ

*Basically get ready here he comes

II. Jesus was Born (Matt 1:18 - 2:12)

-Angles, shepard's, wise men rejoiced

-Was God John 1:1,14

-Was Baptized by John Baptist Matt. 3:16-17

-Was tempted in all ways Matt chapter 4

-So he could identify with us

-His answer to temptation was "as it is written"

-Ministry began at age 30 lasting 3.5 years

-Message = Repent kingdom of heaven is near

-His own received him not John 1:11

III. God comes to the alter with his own son

-The Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. (John 1:29)

-Jesus had no sin but carried our sins with him to his death (2 Cor. 5:21)

-1 Peter 2:24

-Death burial and Resurrection

-Death Matt 27:28-31 -Burial Matt 27:66 -Resurrection Matt 28:2-4 *Collectively called "gospel" meaning good news 1 Cor. 15:2-6 -Declared Jesus with power to be the Son of God (Romans 1:4) -appeared to more than 500 people 1 Cor. 15:6 -Curtain of temple torn into (Matt. 27:51) *Fulfilling Genesis 3:15 Jesus crushed Satan's head *Fulfillment of the Last Abrahamic promise that all the earth would be blessed. Galatians 3:16

IV. The work on the cross provided atonement for our sins, simply put Christ's blood paid the price to appease God. Christ paid the redemption fee so that we might be ushered back into the presence of God.

-Matt 20:28 -1 John 4:10 -1 Peter 1:18-19 -Romans 5:9 -Eph. 1:7

V. The New Covenant was ushered in to place

-The Old Testament was nailed to the cross (Colossians 2:14; Eph 2:15) -The Old Testament is not worthless but fulfilled and is still very important to us. (Matt. 5:17)

Conclusion:

Jesus has completed the work of salvation on the cross as God's sacrificial lamb. He died for our sins but he did it joyfully (Heb. 12:2). All history both past and present look to this center of time and purpose. Now God and man can again walk hand in hand in a paradise type relationship which God had set forth from the beginning. May our God be glorified and receive all our praise. Jesus is our savior!