**SERMON SHEET 12/24/23**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent 2023**

**“The Incarnation and the Wonderful Gift of Sonship”**

**Text: Galatians 4:1-7**

I. Introduction

II. The Christmas/Adoption connection

1. The legal illustration (vs. 1-3)
2. The perfect timing (v. 4a)
3. The miraculous conception (v. 4b)
4. The normal delivery (v. 4c)
5. The ultimate purpose (v. 5a)
6. The undeserved gift (v. 5b)
7. The full confirmation (v. 6)
8. The eternal benefit (v. 7)

III. Conclusion – a final word

**QUOTES**

1. Tom Nettles:

*Within the time span of a few minutes, the leading mysteries of classical orthodoxy were present in the very body of Mary. The Trinity and the duality of natures in the single person of Christ were concentrated in a moment in the angel’s announcement and in her own body… Her womb was the location of the “fullness of the time,” and Holy Spirit, Holy Father, and Holy Son all converged, as it were, “in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,” to bring into the world the Redeemer.*

2. Charles Spurgeon:

*Think how much He must have loved you when you were going on in sin. You used to call His ministers hypocrites, His people fools. His Sabbaths were idle days with you. His precious book was unread. You never sought His grace. Perhaps you used to curse Him, perhaps persecute Him in His children, and yet He loved you. And when His Spirit came after you, you tried to quench Him… but His love would not be mastered by you. He had resolved to have you, and the Bridegroom would win you heart.*

**SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE**

* **1 John 4:9-10**
* **Rom. 8:15-17**