fairwaybaptistchurch

December 2, 2007
The Pre-Christmas Jesus – Part 1

John 8:51-59
Jesus was ***born*** in Bethlehem, but the Son of God, the person of Christ, the 2nd member of the Trinity was around long ***before*** He put skin on in Bethlehem.

"*Before Abraham was born,...*"

- literally "before Abraham ***became***…"
- Abraham ***transitioned*** from not being to being.

"…, *I AM*."

- Jesus is claiming for Himself ***eternal*** existence in the divine sense. Jesus is claiming to be the eternal ***God***.
  Psalm 90:2
- "ego emi" – the Greek translation of the Old Testament name for ***God*** "Yahweh" or "YHWH"

Exodus 3:13-14, 15, 16-17
Each time the text says "LORD" it is the "I AM" name ***Yahweh*** and "Lord" is the Hebrew for "***master***" which is "Adonai."

Exodus 6:2-8
I AM is the eternal One who ***redeems*** His people. He does that in order to make them His own and to ***bless*** them.

John 18:2-8
The proper response to the I AM is to ***fall*** down – perhaps in fear, but ultimately in ***worship***.

The ***eternally*** present God has made a way to redeem His people, to be our Savior. And that was why He came; that was why there is a beginning at Bethlehem for Him who has no ***beginning***.

Who is Jesus in your Christmas?
A *baby* in Bethlehem or the eternally redeeming *God*?

NOTES