

Child of Destiny

By Joseph Tkach

Last July, the whole world took notice when Prince George was born in England. He is said to be 'the Child of Destiny'. His future has been decided: he is third in line to the British throne, and one day will be King. We all seem to be fascinated by the traditions and pageantry of royalty. So it wasn't surprising that this child captured the imagination of people around the world. And every detail of his life will continue to make the news in the years ahead.

But here's something I bet you hadn't thought about. According to the US Bureau of Statistics, Prince George was only one of about 370,000 babies born that day. Most were born in the world's poorer countries. Many, sadly, have already died. Many more will not survive their first year. Those that do will grow up in poverty, knowing only hunger and misery. Some have the misfortune to be born into one of the world's war zones, and their childhood memories are destined to be filled with fear and uncertainty.

That is a sad fact about life today. But thankfully, that is not the whole story. About 2000 years ago, another King was born, in Bethlehem. Unlike Prince George he was born into humble circumstances, and only a few people noticed his birth. But the birth of this baby changed the destiny of every human being who has ever lived. I am, of course, talking about Jesus. Through his life, death, and resurrection the promise

of eternal life in a restored and renewed creation is made available to every human being.

To God, every human life is precious; every baby born is a child of destiny. He loves his creation and is aware of every aspect of it. Jesus told us not even a sparrow lives and dies without God being aware of it. He added: 'Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows'.

Through Jesus, every human being has become a child of destiny.

And that is the core of the good news found in the gospel.

This is a transcript of the weekly 'Speaking of Life' radio programme by Joseph Tkach, president of Grace Communion International. For more information visit www.gci.org.

