

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS (PART 1)

SCRIPTURE READING:

- “¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).
- “Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel” (2 Tim 2:8)

INTRODUCTION:

A. The True Meaning of Christmas

1. Christ is Christmas – Christmas is Christ.
2. Jesus Christ is the **Central Figure** of Christmas – He was the Christ child born on Bethlehem.
3. The symbolic meaning of Christmas is the act of God sending His Son to earth to signify His great love and desire to reconcile with mankind.

B. “This is the True Meaning of Christmas – The Good News – that God sent His only Son to earth to save people from their sins.” – (Billy Graham)

- “And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins” (Matt 1:21).
- “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

C. According to Pastor Adrian Rogers, “The wisest thing you could do at Christmastime, or any other time, is to worship Jesus.”

D. “Christmas is the celebration of Jesus coming to earth so that you and I can go to Heaven. That is the greatest gift any of us could ever hope to receive.” – Pastor Charles Stanley

PROPOSITION:

In this Bible Study, we will review three (3) facts related to the Christ of Christmas.

I. THE PRE-EXISTENCE OF CHRIST

The Pre-Existence of Christ means that the second person of the Godhead – God the Son – existed prior to His incarnation (Jesus in Human Flesh).

A. Christ has Always Existed and Will Always Exist

There was never a time when Christ did not exist.

- “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God” (Psalm 90:2).

B. Christ was in the Beginning With God (John 1:1-2)

- “¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²The same was in the beginning with God” (John 1:1-2).

1. Christ existed from all eternity. He is God – He is Divine. Christ existed in the Beginning – He was Not Created – He is the Co-Creator.

2. Christ was already present when the world was created (Gen 1:1). Jesus has always existed (John 8:58).

C. Christ was in Heaven With God (John 3:13)

- “And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven” (John 3:13).

Jesus came down from above – Heaven. He came from the spiritual world into this physical world. He exist in two natures – Fully Divine and Fully Human. Christ is the only person to leave Heaven, come to earth, and return to Heaven.

- “³³For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. ³⁸For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me” (John 6:33, 38).

- “Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God” (John 13:3).

D. Christ had Glory with God the Father before the Creation of the World (John 17:5)

- “And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was” (John 17:5).

Before Christ came to earth, He was in Heaven with God – One with God. Now that His earthly mission was almost completed, He asked God to restore Him to His original position of honor, authority, and glory – Before His Incarnation.

- “Then said Jesus unto them, Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me” (John 7:33).

- “I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father” (John 16:28).

II. THE PROPHECY OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Prophecy means to predict or speak of future events; to preach,, to instruct in Biblical Doctrines.

A. Isaiah prophesied the Birth of Christ (Isa 9:6)

- “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace” (Isa 9:6).
- **Prophecy Fulfilled:**
 - “And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ” (Matt 1:16).
 - “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11).

B. The Humanity of Christ

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a child is given”

The child to be born refers to Christ Jesus, the long expected Messiah. Christ is God’s rich gift to mankind.

- “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved” (Acts 4:12).
- “And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church” (Eph 1:22).

C. The Deity of Christ (Isa 9:6)

1. “The government shall be upon His shoulder”

Christ will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords. This refers to the supreme power, rule, and authority of Christ. No one compares to Christ in strength and authority – not now or forevermore.

- “Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords” (1 Tim 6:15).
- “These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful” (Rev 17:14).
- “And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King Of kings, And Lord Of lords” (Rev 19:16).

2. “His Name Shall Be Called Wonderful, Counsellor”

This means that Christ will always make the best decisions in any and all situations. He gives Godly and unfailing advice on any subject.

3. “His Name Shall Be Called The Mighty God”

Christ is the Omnipotent, Supreme Ruler. He is the Messiah who is revealed (prophesied) to be the Savior of mankind (Believers) and the Son of God.

4. **“His Name Shall Be Called The ... Everlasting Father”**

Christ is the source of Eternal Life. He gives Eternal Life to all who Believe in Him. Christ is the all wise, Instructor, Trainer, and Provider.

5. **“His Name Shall Be Called The ... Prince of Peace”**

Christ will at last bring peace to this troubled and confused world.

D. Moses Prophesied the Birth of Christ (Deut 18:15)

- “The Lord thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken” (Deut 18:15).

Stephen referenced this verse in support of His claim that Jesus is God’s Son, the Messiah (Acts 7:38). The Incarnation was a part of God’s original Plan.

E. The Angel Gabriel Prophesied the Birth of Christ (Luke 1:26-38).

God sent the Angel Gabriel with a message to Mary, who was engaged in marriage to Joseph. The angel told Mary that she would have a son, who she was to name Jesus. The angel also told her, “ He shall be Great, and shall be called the Son of the Most Highest” (vv. 31-32).

III. THE PLACE OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

A. Christ was born in Bethlehem (Luke 2:4)

Christ was born in Bethlehem as prophesied in Micah 5:2.

- “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting” (Micah 5:2).

B. Christ was laid in a Manger – Feeding trough (Luke 2:7)

- “And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn” (Luke 2:7)

“He began in a manger, and ended on the Cross, and along the way had not where to lay His head.” (Darby)

C. Christ became poor for our sakes (2 Cor 8:9)

- “For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich” (2 Cor 8:9).

If you are looking for a standard of giving, here it is: the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He was rich but He became poor. He came down here and took a place of poverty. Imagine leaving Heaven and coming down to this earth to be born in Bethlehem, to live in Nazareth, to die on a Cross outside the walls of Jerusalem, and to be put into the darkness of a tomb! He was rich but He became poor for you and me. (J. Vernon McGee).

○ **I Gave My Life For Thee**

I gave My life for thee, My precious blood I shed,
That thou mightst ransomed be, And quickened from the dead;
I gave, I gave My life for thee, What hast thou done for Me?
I gave, I gave My life for thee, What hast thou done for Me?

MEMORY VERSE:

“But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law” (Gal 4:4).

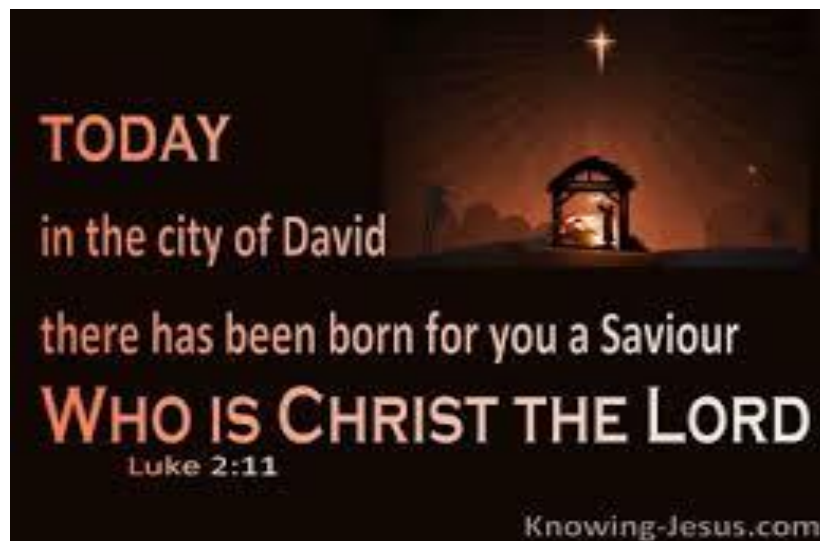
CONCLUSION:

A. Keep Christ in Christmas – It is the celebration of the Birth of the Savior – Jesus Christ.

B. Joy To The World

Joy to the world; the Lord is come; Let Earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry
Heart prepare him room, And Heav'n and nature sing.
No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow, Far as the curse is found.

C. Romans Road (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)



**From the Teaching Ministry of:
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).