

CORINTH CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

THE CHRIST OF CHRISTMAS (PART 2)

SCRIPTURE READING:

- “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel (Isa 7:14).
- “²¹And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. ²³Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.” (Matt 1:21, 23).
- “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11).
- “The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

INTRODUCTION:

Christian Quotes About Christmas:

1. “Once in our world, a stable has something in it that was bigger than our whole world” (C.S. Lewis).
2. “We celebrate the first Christmas because we know there is a Second Coming” (Matt Chandler).
3. You can never really enjoy Christmas until you can look up into the Father’s face and tell Him you have received His Christmas Gift” (John R. Rice).
4. “The very purpose of Christ’s coming into the world was that He might offer up His life as a sacrifice for the sins of men. He came to die. This is the heart of Christmas” (Rev Billy Graham).

RECAP OF CHRIST IS CHRISTMAS (PART 1)

I. THE PRE-EXISTENCE OF CHRIST

Christ existed prior to His Incarnation – Christ in Human Flesh (John 1:14). Christ has always existed. There was never a time when Christ did not exist.

II. THE PROPHECY OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Isaiah prophesied the birth of Christ (Isa 9:6). The prophecy fulfillment is recorded in Matt 1:16 and Luke 2:11.

III. THE PLACE OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Christ was born in Bethlehem as prophesied in Micah 2. The prophecy fulfillment is recorded in Luke 2:4.

PROPOSITION:

In Part 2 of this Bible Study, we will study three additional facts related to The Christ of Christmas.

IV. THE ANOUNCEMENT OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST (Luke 2:8-10)

- “⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. 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” (Luke 2:8-10).

A. When the Angel of the Lord announced the Birth of Christ, the shepherds were terrified – “sore afraid.”

However, their fear turned to joy when “the Angel of the Lord” announced the Birth of the Savior, who is “Christ the Lord.”

1. Christ as the Savior means He is the One who saves Believers from their sins.
“... Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners ...” (1 Tim 1:15).
2. Christ as Lord means that He possesses Supreme power and authority. He is the Master of Ruler of a Believer’s life.
 - **“Give your life to God: He can do more with it than you can”** (D. L. Moody).

B. The Angel announced Christ would bring peace (Luke 2:14)

- “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:14).
1. Those at peace with God are those (Believers) who repent of their sins and receive Christ Jesus as their Lord and Savior.
 2. At peace with God is the reconciliation between God and man through His Son, Jesus Christ.
 - “And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven” (Col 1:20).
 - According to Isaiah 9:6, Jesus is the Prince of Peace. Jesus came to provide the way for sinners to have peace with God. He gives Believers the resources to experience inner peace and helps them to become the kind of people who can live in peace with others.
 - “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Phil 4:7).
 - **I’ve Got the Joy**
I’ve got the peace that passeth understanding,
Down in my heart, Down in my heart, Down in my heart;
I’ve got the peace that passeth understanding,
Down in my heart, Down in my heart to stay.

- **Do you have the Peace of Jesus in your Heart?**
- **Do you have Peace in your Heart because of what Jesus has done for you at the Cross? – He paid your sin debt in full.**

- True Peace can never come from a process, a place or a pill. True peace only comes from a person: Jesus Christ!

V. **THE LOVE OF GOD** (John 3:16)

- “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).
- A. The Greatest Text** (John 3:16)
- 1. The Greatest Love – “For God so loved the world...”** (v. 16a)
The love of God is Infinite, unchangeable, eternal and immeasurable.
 - God loves the whole human race – everybody and anybody

 - 2. The Greatest Gift – “... that He Gave His only begotten Son ...”** (v. 16b)
 - a.** Jesus Christ is God’s Gift to mankind – The whole human race. The Gift of Christ cannot be earned. We cannot earn Salvation.

 - b.** No Jesus, No Christianity. No Jesus, No Cross. No Jesus, No Life, No Salvation, No Assurance, No Nothing,” – Anonymous

 - 3. The Greatest Faith – “that whosoever Believeth in Him should not perish ...** (v. 16c)
 - a.** “Whosoever” means the world, anybody, everybody, all people. Jesus Saves regardless of Sins committed.

 - b.** “Believeth” means a person is Saved by Faith – believing and trusting in God. Salvation is by Grace through Faith in Jesus – His death, burial, and resurrection (1 Cor 15:3-4).

 - c.** “Should Not Perish” – Believers will not be separated from God both here and hereafter. Believers will escape eternal punishment (Matt 25:41, 46; Rev 20:10, 15).

 - 4. The Greatest Life – “... but have Eternal Life”** (v. 16d)
Eternal Life is everlasting in duration – Being with Christ Forever!
 - “We love him, because he first loved us” (1 John 4:19).
- B. The Love of God is a Life-Giving Love** (1 John 4:9)
- “In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him” (1 John 4:19).
- 1. God’s love for us as Sinners**
God’s love is unconditional. He demonstrated His love by sending His Son – He “sent His only begotten Son into the world that we might live through Him.”

2. Christ is the **propitiation** for our sins – the means by which our sins are forgiven and Heaven is our eternal home.

C. The Love of God is Extended to All Mankind (Titus 2:11)

- “For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men” (Titus 2:11). Christ gave Himself for our sins. He appeared for the Salvation of all men. His substitutionary work is sufficient for the redemption of the whole world. Christ’s offer of pardon and forgiveness is available to all. However, only those who truly receive Him as Lord and Savior are Saved.

D. God Does Not Want Anyone to Perish (2 Peter 3:9)

- “The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Pet 3:9).

God is loving and patient. He does not want anyone to perish (to destroy; to be delivered up to eternal misery). God’s desire is that all should come to repentance. As He promised, He purposely extends the time of Grace so that unbelievers might have every opportunity to be Saved.

VI. THE EARTHLY MISSION OF CHRIST

A. Christ Came to Preach (Mark 1:38)

- “And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth” (Mark 1:38).

Christ preached the Good News of Salvation.

1. During Christmastime and every day of the year, share God’s Good News of Salvation – **JESUS SAVES!**
2. Jesus told His disciples, “Let us go into the next town, that I might preach there ...” Be sure to share the Good News of Salvation with those you know and those you do not know.
 - “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

B. Christ Came to Save Sinners (1 Tim 1:15)

- “This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief” (1 Tim 1:15).
1. **Christ came into the world to save Sinners.**
He did not come to save good people because there were none. Neither did He come to save those who kept the law because none have kept the law.
 2. A person cannot save himself. He cannot earn Salvation by being good or by doing something to win favor with God. The only way a person can get to Heaven is through the substitutionary work of Christ on the Cross.

C. Jesus Came to Save

- “For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved” (John 3:17).
- “He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John 3:36).
- “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom 6:23).
- “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (2 Cor 5:21).

D. Christmas Quotes:

- “Christmas is more than just the presence of God with us; its God’s solution for our sins.” – Warren Wiersbe
- I believe that Jesus Christ, True God, begotten of the Father from Eternity, and also True Man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.” – Martin Luther
- “Christ was content with a stable when He was born so that we could have a mansion when we die.” – Anonymous

MEMORY VERSE:

- “**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God**” (John 1:1).

CONCLUSION:

A. Some Christmas Reminders

- * May the Christmas GIFTS remind us of God’s greatest gift, His only Son (1 John 4:9-11).
- * May the Christmas CANDLES remind us of Him who is the “Light of the world.” (John 8:12).
- * May the Christmas TREES remind us of another tree upon which He died (Acts 5:30, 10:39, 13:29).
- * May the Christmas CHEER remind us of Him who said, “Be of good cheer.” (John 16:33).
- * May the Christmas FEAST remind us of Him who is “the Bread of Life.” (John 6:35, 48, 51).
- * May the Christmas BELLS remind us of the glorious proclamation of His birth (Luke 2:8-10).
- * May the Christmas CAROLS remind us of the son the angels sang, “Glory to God in the Highest!” (Luke 2:14)
- * May the Christmas SEASON remind us in every way of Jesus Christ our King! (1 Tim 6:15; Rev 17:14, 19:16).

B. As you celebrate Christmas, share the True Meaning of Christmas – the Birth of the Savior – Jesus Christ – and His Saving Grace.

- “⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast” (Eph 2:8-9).

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).