



The True Meaning of Christmas

The True Meaning

The sound of Christmas carols playing as family and friends gather around the Christmas tree, the light reflecting from the ornaments and the crowning star. Dad and mom are tucking their anxious kids in bed, wondering if they were good enough for Santa Claus. Stores are filling with many eager shoppers looking for that special gift. But what is the true meaning of Christmas?

Christmas is one of the most exciting holidays because of its true meaning: **Christmas exists to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.**

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:11)

You may be asking, “Why is Jesus’ birth important?” or “What is all the hype about the

birth of Jesus” and “if Jesus is the true meaning of Christmas what does that have to do with me.” Well, God gave His Son because **we all have a problem called “sin.”** The Bible says:

“There is none righteous, no, not one.” (Romans 3:10)

“For all have sinned” (Romans 3:23)

“For the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23a)

God’s requirements for you to get to have eternal life with Him is to be sinless. Have you ever told a lie before? Stole something? Hated someone? Had impure thoughts? If so, that makes you a sinner like everyone else, and those aren’t even all the laws of God! **The penalty for our sin is to be eternally rejected of God.** But surely there must be an escape? That escape is what Christmas is all about, and why it is a season of hope!

“Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners like us. He was perfectly sinless; He was never disobedient to God’s laws and thus didn’t have to die. But, He loved us so much that He willingly gave His life and died on the cross to pay the price for our sins. **He shed His righteous blood and took our place, paying our price!** Three days later He rose from the dead, proving to the world He is God, and has power over death and Hell.

“God commendeth {showed} his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

“The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ.” (Romans 6:23b)

But what do you have to do to receive this gift? When you open a present on Christmas morning, do you pay the giver for it, or simply take it thankfully? **God is extending His gift of salvation to you.** It is a free gift: you don't have to work for it or purchase it. You simply receive the gift of God by grace through faith. The Bible says:

"Man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law." (Romans 3:28)

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:" (Ephesians 2:8)

If you truly believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, that He came to this earth to die on the cross to pay the price for your sin, and that He rose from the dead three days later, proving He is God, then ask Him to forgive you of your sins. Repent. **Turn from your own way and trust**

exclusively in Jesus Christ, and nothing else.

“...repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Acts 20:21)

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (Romans 10:9)

“That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John 3:16b)

Will you repent and put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ this Christmas season?

By Mark Tolson & Scott Newton
www.visionbaptist.com