

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

The birth, life and ministry of Jesus Christ still is the turning point of all history.



Where has the year gone? I am sure you have already asked yourself that question a few times this past week or so. I trust that 2015 has been a productive and wonderful year for you and yes it has flown by far too fast.

Life is not without challenges but God is always good and He seems to get us through them doesn't He! And now here we are, just a few weeks away from celebrating Christmas, the birth of God's Son!

Christmas is truly a special time of year for us. Most people think of the Christmas story beginning in a manger in the little town of Bethlehem. In reality, the story began before this world was even created.

The apostle John wrote, **"In the beginning was the Word, the word was with God and the Word was God. The Word became a man and lived (tabernacled) among us, and we saw His glory. This glory belonged to only the Son, who came from the Father and who was full of grace and truth"** (John 1:1, 14).

The birth, life and ministry of Jesus Christ still is the turning point of all history. The Jewish prophet Isaiah proclaimed these words, “Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear forth a son and shall call his name Immanuel, which being interpreted is God with us” (Isaiah 7:14).

As well, 700 Hundred years before he actually came the prophet Micah also prophesied of His coming saying, “But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from old, from everlasting” (Micah 5:2).

Many great men have appeared in this world, yet there never has been one or never will be one as divine as God’s Son, Jesus Christ. And that is the reason for this season!

Approximately 2000 years ago four of the disciples wrote about the life, teachings and ministry of Jesus. They are, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John (the 4 Gospels) in the New Testament. Of those four, Matthew and Luke wrote about the specifics of Christ’s birth.

The story of Christ’s birth portrays to us many different characters. They include, Zechariah and his wife Elisabeth, Joseph and Mary, King Herod, Shepherds, angels, and the magi from the east, [\(please read Matt. 1:18-2:12; Luke 2:1-20\)](#).

Christ’s birth was indeed, “God with us.” The Christ child was God’s divine plan to redeem man from his sin and shame. Jesus Christ came, he testified to the authority of the Heavenly Father and to be the son of God. He ministered to the broken and the needy with the love, truth and grace that He had received from His father.

He lived a sinless life, was crucified, died and was buried. But here is the good news! He rose from the dead to give all those believe on him eternal life that they should never die!

Christ’s life indeed had a divine purpose!

As I stated earlier, the birth, life and ministry of Jesus Christ still is the turning point of all history.

The two greatest moments in our personal lives is when we were born and when we discover why we were born. You and I all have a divine destiny and purpose for our lives. But, that divine destiny and purpose can only be accomplished because of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ!

Peter, a fisherman followed Jesus for over 3 years of his earthly ministry. He became one of Jesus closest followers and a very close friend. In the book of Acts Peter gives a clear presentation about Jesus Christ to a Roman named Cornelius.

Here are Peter's words as recorded in [Acts 10:34-43](#);

“Then Peter opened *his* mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all— that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, *even* to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God *to be* Judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

Friends, the life of Jesus Christ calls for a decision to be made by all! He is God's greatest gift to all of mankind! There is enough convincing proof throughout the Bible and Church History that Jesus Christ did exist, that He was who He said He

was as the son of God, the one who can and does forgive sin. He arose from the dead and there is many testimonies of recorded eye witnesses who seen him alive before He ascended to the right hand of the Father. The birth, life and ministry of Jesus Christ still is the turning point of all history.

The only question that remains is this; have you received God the Fathers greatest gift into your heart and life? Have you personally admitted your great need of Jesus Christ?

If not prayer this simple prayer:

“Father God, I believe you have a divine purpose and plan for my life. I know that I have sinned against you and ask for forgiveness for those sins. I believe on your Son, Jesus Christ and accept the truth that he died on the cross and shed His blood for the remission of my sins. Jesus I now accept you as my personal Lord and Savior and ask that you come into my heart and life by the power of God’s Holy Spirit. Make me a new person Lord and help me now by your grace oh Lord to follow you the rest of my life, in Jesus Christ name I pray, Amen”

The birth, life and ministry of Jesus Christ still is the turning point of all history. Let Him be the turning point of your life today!

Let us pray!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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