

Nine Spectacular Words 1 Timothy 1:15

INTRODUCTION

Please turn in your Bible to **1 Timothy 1:15**. Did you catch the **nine** spectacular words that revolutionize our understanding of Christmas? In general, most people when they think of this time of year think only of the beauty of it **but there's also another side**. There's a DARK side...an ugly side. ***Lurking behind every beautiful scene on every Christmas card and every lovely sentiment of Christmas there's a vile, wretched reality that is crucial to a proper understanding of Christmas. And that reality is that sinners needed a Savior.***

Why did He come in the first place? ***That is the Christmas question.***

**I. Christ Jesus came in the world to save sinners:
the _____ explained**

The heart of Christmas is this: **Christ came into the world to save sinners**. The true or real beauty of Christmas is to understand the ugliness that it cures. Sin is that which blights all of human life. **Sin is that which damns every soul to hell**. That which pervades the entire world, and because of sin there are tears and pain and war and fighting and anxiety and discord and unrest and fear and worry and sickness and death and famine and earthquakes and pollution. All those things which mar our existence are the direct result of sin. **Sin disturbs and disrupts every human relationship, whether between man and man, man and creation or man and God**. People are much more prone to excuse their sin than they are to examine it. Christmas forces us to realize that we needed to be set free from damnation; we truly were on a highway to hell. Christmas has to do with the Savior who came to deliver men from sin. ***If there were no sin, there would need to be no Christmas.***

**II. Christ Jesus came in the world to save sinners:
the _____ identified**

A. _____ is sin?

Sin equals lawlessness and lawlessness equals sin. It is living as if there were no God and no law, no authority, no standard. Sin denies the reality of God's law. It says God is not in charge and cannot put on me a binding rule. It is living beyond the boundaries God has set. ***It is thinking that is unacceptable to God, speaking that is unacceptable to God, behavior that is unacceptable to God. Sin is our rebellion toward God and His rule. Sin is our heart's hostility toward Him. It's who we are to the bottom of our hearts.***

B. What is sin _____?

1. Sin is _____.

2. Sin is _____.

Sin not only would dethrone God, but it would also un-God God.

3. Sin is humanly _____.

C. What is the _____ of sin?

3. Sin makes a person the _____ of God's wrath.

D. What are the _____ of sin?

1. Sin causes evil to _____ us.

4. Sin subjects a person to the _____ of life.

2. Sin brings us under the _____ of Satan.

5. Sin _____ people to hell.

A sinner is not free. He is under the total domination of sin and the control of Satan. **Ephesians 2:2** the Apostle Paul says in Scripture that the sinner walks (daily conduct), ***“according to the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.”*** Due to sin, man is a slave to Satan. Only, Jesus said, ***“if the Son makes you free are you free indeed.”*** So, the results of sin are sin overpowers and brings into the control of Satan.

III. Christ Jesus came in the world to save sinners:

the _____ provided

The purpose of Christmas is that Christ came to... **save sinners**. Now isn't that the beauty of Christmas? No one can truly understand the beauty of Christmas without the ugliness of sin. It isn't the cards and the trees and the lights and the presents and the Christmas pageants, and the snow scenes and the warm fires, the beauty of Christmas is that Christ came to deal with sin; provide the cure to our malady.

Think with me about the beauty of the Incarnation...God with us. The God of the universe took on human flesh so His hands could heal, His ears would listen, His lips would speak, and He takes on Human nature to live the perfect life we could not and die the perfect death we could not so that by faith in that life and death we receive His righteousness as He pays for our sins. Speaking of His death don't miss the connection between Christmas and Calvary.

The meaning of Christmas is that God determined to send His Son into the world, the brightness of His glory, the express image of His person, partaker of the divine perfection to die for us. That's Christmas. And no matter what you may think and what sentiments you may have and what warm feelings you might have about Christmas, unless you understand the ugliness of your own sin and embrace Jesus Christ who alone by His death and resurrection can save you from that sin, you don't have any connection with Christmas.

Christianity is the only religion on the planet for bad people. All the others tell you that you have to be good to be saved, and then they tell you all the good things you have to do in order to become good. Christianity is for sinners. It doesn't say Christ Jesus came into the world to save those who earned it or those who have it altogether or those whose good deeds outweigh their bad ones. **Christianity is not about what you do to reach God—it's about what God has done to reach you.**

CONCLUSION

- The wonder of Christmas is rooted in a _____: ***“Christ Jesus came into the world.”***

- The wonder of Christmas is seen in the divine _____ of this event: ***Christ Jesus came into the world “to save sinners.”***

- The wonder of Christmas is received through a _____: ***Christ came to save sinners, “of whom I am foremost.”***

Folks, this is the marvel of Christmas! Don't miss the true significance of Christmas. Christmas is not merely the celebration of a baby. Christmas is the celebration of God in a manger. **But Christmas is meaningless unless you make it personal. You make Christmas personal by believing that Jesus is indeed God in a manger.** But more than that, you believe that Jesus is the only One who can reconcile you to a holy God. Believe that Jesus is God. Believe that He paid the penalty for all of your sins. Believe that you can do nothing to earn or merit God's favor. Believe that Jesus is the only one who can take you to heaven. If you believe that, let me assure you that you will discover the marvel of Christmas and receive the greatest gift ever: God in a manger.