

Subject: *Jesus – Our Blessed Savior*

Scripture: *Matthew 1:18-25*

Christmas is the most widely celebrated holiday around the world each year. Unlike most of our holidays, Christmas is not the celebration of a national event or a human achievement. Christmas is a divine event and is about a divine Person because it honors the birth of Jesus Christ, the one and only Son of God. Christmas means that the eternal God came to earth as a human being to live a righteous life and then die as a perfect sacrifice for sins.

JESUS IN THE MANGER: GOD WITH US

The Bible tells us about some amazing and unusual births. Isaac was born to woman named Sarah, who was barren and almost 100 years old. Samson was born to a woman who was unable to bear children. The prophet Samuel was born to a barren woman named Hannah. John the Baptist was born to Elizabeth who was also barren. But the birth of Christ is greater than all these. His birth was more than unusual; it was a unique, one-of-a-kind virgin birth.

In these verses Matthew explains that the virgin birth was predicted by God in the Old Testament. Matthew often uses the phrase “that it might be fulfilled,” and he quotes from the Old Testament more than 60 times. In Matthew 1:23, he quotes from Isaiah 7:14. This prophecy spoke of two important things: the virgin would be with child and this child would be God in human flesh. What an amazing fact that God came to earth as a man. There is an important event in Paul’s life that shows us how amazing this was (see Acts 14:8-18). The natural reaction to God in human flesh is to worship Him. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

JESUS ON THE CROSS: GOD FOR US

The angel told Joseph to name him “Jesus” (Savior). He was born to save us from our sins.

- Jesus is the only Savior

John 14:6 *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

Acts 4:12 *Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

1 Timothy 2:5 *For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*

- Jesus saves us from this present world

Galatians 1:3-4³ *Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ,*⁴ *Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father.*

- Jesus saves us from the penalty of sin

Hebrews 2:14-15 ¹⁴ Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; ¹⁵ And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

During this Christmas season we are under a terror threat, but the constant threat is not ISIS or some Islamic group. The greatest and constant threat is the terror of death. The Bible calls death our enemy. Death is the last enemy that will be destroyed.

- Jesus saves us from the power of sin

Romans 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. Jesus saves us from the dominion or control of sin. He gives us freedom from strongholds and habits that bind us. Sometimes we call them “vices” because they have such a grip on our lives.

Romans 6:18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

- Jesus saves us from the presence of sin

He justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies his people. One day we will be free from the presence and possibility of sin. There will be no more sin and no more temptation. The Bible says that we “look for a new heavens and a new earth in which dwells righteousness.” In Heaven there will be no more sea, no more tears, no more pain, and no more curse.

What a Savior! He does all this for his people. **Matthew 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. Are you one of His people? You can be. Salvation is available, but it's not automatic. Salvation is available on God's terms. You must repent of your sins and believe in Jesus.