

The True Meaning of Christmas

GOD'S GIFT TO YOU

Part 4; December 20, 2009

"The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them...

- Darkness is a euphemism for _____

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and **His name** will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace." *Isaiah 9:2, 6 NASB*

- He is the Mighty God - _____

"[Jesus] **existing in the form of God**...emptied Himself by assuming the form of a slave, taking on the likeness of men...He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross. For this reason God also highly exalted Him..." *Philippians 2:6-9 HCSB; See John 1:1-5*

- He gave up _____
- _____ that we might have eternal life

"For today in the city of David there has **been born for you a Savior**, who is Christ the Lord." *Luke 2:11 NASB95*

- He is _____ see *Acts 4:12*
- He is God's Messiah: The _____ deliverer
- He is the _____

"So that **at the name of Jesus** every knee should bow... and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." *Philippians 2:9-11 HCSB*

- We are not accountable _____, we are accountable to God's Word

Then Simeon blessed them and told His mother Mary: "Indeed, **this child is destined to cause the fall and rise of many** in Israel and to be a sign that will be opposed ...that the thoughts [schemes] of many hearts may be revealed." *Luke 2:34-35 NIV*

- The outcome of our lives hinge upon _____

"God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came **to help**, to **put the world right** again." *John 3:17 MSG*

- God wants to help you find _____ for your life struggles

"For it is **by grace** you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God" *Ephesians 2:8 NIV*

- You don't have to work to get God's attention – You are _____

"Saving is all his idea, and all his work. All we do is **trust him** enough to **let him** do it. It's God's gift from start to finish!" *Ephesians 2:8 MSG*

- You don't have to "_____ " before you come to Him

"By the free gift of God's grace **all are put right** with him *through* Christ Jesus, who sets them free." *Romans 3:24 GNB*

- God's gift is found in _____ with Jesus, not religious observance

"So **now**, those who are **in Christ Jesus** are not judged guilty." *Romans 8:1 NCV*

- There is an eternal difference being "_____ " Jesus rather than "_____ " Jesus

"May you be able to feel and understand... how **long**, how **wide**, how **deep**, and how **high** God's love really is; and *to experience this love for yourselves*." *Ephesians 3:18-19 TLB*