

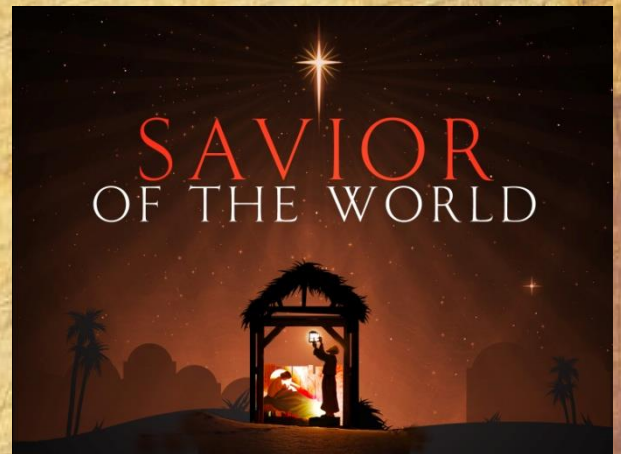
Christmas Begins With Christ

By Debra Jack

No doubt, since before Thanksgiving, you have already heard many times, “Have a Holly Jolly Christmas,” “Happy Holidays,” “Merry Christmas” and the many other phrases related specifically to this season of year. Admittedly, this is and should be a joyful time of year. But for many, many, it may not be. For others it may be a ridiculous time of year. And still for others, Christmas may be just what we make of it.

Yet, we need to remember that *it is* Christmas time and—“*Christmas begins with Christ.*” This is truth whether or not one believes in Christ. Christmas doesn’t begin with Santa Claus, shopping, gift giving, festive parties, festive lights or any of the like—*Christmas begins with Christ.* Christmas means a “*celebration of Christ.*” That means the very and only reason we have *Christmas* in the first place is because of *Christ Jesus.* Yet far too many do not know Jesus Christ, the Author of Christmas.

Christmas began over 2,000 years ago, but it didn’t come with a Christmas tree, stockings hung by the fireplace, a Christmas feast fit for a king, etc. etc. It came when a certain Baby boy was miraculously born in a stable one night in a place called Bethlehem through a young virgin girl named, Mary. With her betrothed, Joseph, they took the long journey to Bethlehem to pay their taxes. Unexpectedly to the young couple, the Baby from Heaven would be born while they were in Bethlehem through Joseph’s hands delivering Him. And, they called Him, Jesus. All of this was according to prophecy and that which the arch-angel, Gabriel, was sent to announce. Jesus was a God-Baby Who was sent to save the world. He was the Christ—Messiah, the Anointed Savior of all mankind. This isn’t a fictitious made-up story—it is a true story, historically documented by the Holy Spirit and it is the basis for Christmas.



Jesus Christ, God’s own Son, came to bring an actual awakening and revival to all human life and change everything. He came to redeem that which was lost. He came to bring the Light to those who were living in darkness. He came to bring all humankind into relationship with God the Father through His own sacrifice. He came to set things right for all of us.

Jesus came to announce God’s grace. Jesus Christ came to heal the brokenhearted, to announce freedom to captives and to prisoners. Jesus came to care for the needs of all who mourn, giving them bouquets of roses instead of ashes, messages of joy instead of news of doom, a praising heart instead of a languid spirit!

Jesus Christ came to give us LIFE and abundant full LIFE that is to begin while we are on Earth and go with us into eternity. Jesus came to take back ownership of what belonged to God and had been stolen by satan aka the devil, the master of darkness, the one that comes to steal, kill and destroy.

Jesus Christ came to die—to give His life for us that we might live. He came to take upon Himself our sin, the sin of everyone in the world—sin that rightly keeps us out of the presence of God. And while Jesus came to die, He came to live—to be raised from the dead, which He indeed did, that we would experience a revived, resurrected life both now and in eternity. Jesus is now sitting at the right hand of God, where Believers are seated with Him!

And there you have it in a nutshell, for sure; but all of this and more is why we actually sing, “*Joy To The World!*” Believers have something to sing about, in fact, a *great deal* to sing about and we have something to celebrate! *Christ.*

At *New Beginnings Christian Fellowship*, we are determined to experience this awakening and revival that Jesus Christ specifically and sacrificially came to give us, as well as appointed for our time, because WE BELIEVE. And, we are determined to experience this revival with *signs, wonders, and miracles* because it is through these that Jesus was born, conducted His ministry while He was on earth and then commanded His Believers to do the same. We are determined to experience this revival with honor and respect for what Jesus Christ has done and is doing.

If you are a Believer in Christ Jesus, be blessed with more wisdom and revelation of Him in this hour.

Maybe you are not a Believer in Christ Jesus and are having a tough time believing the whole story of the miraculous birth of Jesus Christ, His mission to save the world and His commission to His Believers. Maybe you have been asking the question: “What do I need saving for or from?” or “Why do I need an awakening or revival?” Possibly you believe there other ways to Heaven besides Jesus Christ. Or possibly you have thought there is no God, or God has abandoned you.

Whatever your circumstance or questions, wherever you are right now, *Christmas is coming* and as long as Christmas comes it is a reminder that Jesus Christ came to meet with us—with you! He WILL open His arms to you! He WILL be an answer to your circumstances or life questions! He WILL become real to you!

Would you like to meet Jesus, the One Who puts the *Christ in Christmas*?

Would you like Him to touch you? To heal you? To deliver you? Do you need a miracle in your life?

Would you like to really celebrate Christmas through a life-changing experience?

Skeptical?

To find out, all you have to do is *choose to meet Him.*

Come on—we’ll introduce you!

A Joyful Christmas to You and Yours,

The Leadership Team at New Beginnings Christian Fellowship