

“Christmas Is A Celebration”
The Meaning of Christmas — Part 1
Luke 2:8-10

Christmas is a birthday celebration!

“There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.’”

Luke 2:8-10

What are you celebrating this Christmas?

1. God’s love!

“God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy...

Titus 3:4-5

But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5

...This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus...

2 Timothy 1:9-10

In Christmas God is saying, “I love you!”

2. God’s presence!

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

Matthew 1:23

Immanuel = God with us!

...I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

Matthew 28:20

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Deuteronomy 31:6

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"

Hebrews 13:5-6

In Christmas God is saying, "I am here for you!"

3. God's favor!

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!...

1 John 3:1

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

John 3:17

In Christmas God is saying, "I am for you!"

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For he chose us in him before the creation of the world...In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Ephesians 1:3-4 and 7-8

Application: In Christmas God is saying, "I love you, I am with you, and I am for you!"

...*"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."*

Luke 2:8-10

What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?

Romans 8:31-32

What are you celebrating this Christmas?