

WHY YOU CAN HAVE JOY THIS CHRISTMAS

December 23, 2012 Luke 2:10-11 by Bob Branch
The Christmas Gift, Part 2

MAIN IDEA: Lasting joy does not come from presents, or family, or the season, but from greeting and receiving God's greatest gift to us: His son, Jesus.

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:10-11 ESV

1. Unto you

God's gift is to YOU PERSONALLY. He sees you. He knows you.

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—
John 1:12

2. Is born this day in the city of David

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." **Micah 5:2** (Genesis 3:15; 1 John 3:8)

In the coming of Jesus, God is orchestrating something specifically planned long ago with YOU IN MIND.

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. **Ephesians 1:4-5** NLT

3. A Savior

Luke 15...

Whether we know it or not, we're in NEED OF SAVING. So Jesus came as Savior.

Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. **1 Timothy 1:15**

4. Who is Christ

The one who came to save you was heaven's KING HIMSELF.

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. **Matthew 16:16-17**

5. The Lord

God has come IN PERSON to you. He is personal.

Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form...
Philippians 2:6-7 NLT

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"
John 20:27-28