

CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2006  
THE CELEBRATION, ADORATION AND DEFENSE  
OF JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF GOD, THE CHRISTMAS STORY

MATTHEW 2:1-2

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**"IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT  
JESUS CHRIST"**

*THE CELEBRATION, ADORATION AND DEFENSE  
OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD, THE CHRISTMAS STORY*

**Part 1/4**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Salvation, Christmas, Faith, Hope, Love, Worship**

**Introduction to the Text;**

**Matthew 2:1-2**

**Statement of Textual Summation and Theme**

**Matthew 2:1-2**

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

**There is much in the way of tradition and lore**

*about these Wise Men. Tradition tells us that they came from Iraq. That they had been schooled in the ways of Daniel of old. That they knew of or about the coming of the Messiah by the Teachings and Studies of the Prophet Daniel.*

**We've heard that there were (3) three Wisemen (?)  
- we don't know that.**

**We're heard that they were (3) three kings also (?)  
- we don't know that either.**

**But What We Do Know is What The Bible Has to Say.**

**For Nearly Two Thousand Years,  
*the celebration and acknowledgement of Christmas has been  
Part of the Christian Culture Around the World.***

**The "Acknowledgment" of the Birth of Jesus Christ**  
is something that is wonderfully "technical" when you look into the history of it.

**When You Consider...**

The **Promise** of His Birth, His **Actual** Birth Itself,  
and the **Effects** of His Birth, Each of These Things are an **Undeniable Fact**.

**2Pet. 1:16**

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

**If Something Can Be Even "More Sure" Than an Undeniable Fact,  
It Would Be The Birth of Jesus Christ into this World.**

**My Desire, Is To Give You Arguments**

in Defense of Jesus Christ and His Coming Into the World.

# "IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST"

## 1.) *We'd have to neglect the **biblical** accounts*

The Wise Men of Old Were Drawn to Where Jesus was,  
and for The Reason Jesus was...

### **Matthew 2:2**

"Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?  
(#1) - For **we've seen** His star in the East and (#2) - **we've come**  
**to worship** Him."

## WE'D HAVE TO NEGLECT THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNTS

### 1a.) *It said that Jesus **Christ would come***

The Christmas Story is as Old as Time,  
taught by God himself Beginning in **Genesis 3:15**  
and stressed in hundreds of scriptures thru to the book of revelation

The Advent of The Son of God into This World is There !

Confirmed by the Wisest Man to have Every Lived  
(he believed in God by the way)

### **King Solomon Who Lived**

#### **Proverbs 30:4**

Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What *is* His name, and what *is* His Son's name, if you know?

If Something Can Be Even "More Sure" Than a Fact,  
That Some Thing Would Be The Birth of Jesus Christ

**Micah 5:2**

“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Though* you are little among the thousands of Judah, *Yet* out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth *are* from of old, From everlasting.”

**Isaiah 9:6**

For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father (governor over time and eternity), Prince of Peace.

**Rom. 1:2-4**

God promised before **through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures**, (*the old testament*) :3 concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, :4 *and* declared *to be* the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.

**The Biblical Account**

**Romans 15:4**

For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.

**WE'D HAVE TO NEGLECT THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNTS**

**1b.) It said that mankind would be in *great need***

That Makes No Apologies About What It Says About Us.

**Rom. 3:23**

For **all have sinned**, and come short of the glory of God;

**Isaiah 64:6**

But we are all like an unclean *thing*, And all our righteousnesses *are* like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

**Rom. 5:6**

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

**"those who sat in darkness..."**

**"Christmas is Offensive to Those Who Refuse Jesus Christ"  
Christmas is an Irritant Those that Intolerant**

Jesus set himself apart from all others,  
of all time, forever

*Mankind Needs to Know The Way...*

**John 14:6**

Jesus said to him, "I am the way,  
the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

*Mankind Is Searching for Heaven...*

**John 10:9**

Jesus said I am the door.  
If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out  
and find pasture.

*Mankind Longs for Eternal Life...*

**John 11:25**

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection  
and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

*Mankind Longs for Eternal Life...*

**John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever  
believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

**WE'D HAVE TO NEGLECT THE BIBLICAL ACCOUNTS**

**1c.) It said that *the world would benefit* because of him**

### Isaiah 9:1b-2

By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, In Galilee of the Gentiles. **2** The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined.

### Titus 1:2

The truth of God gives us confidence of eternal life, which God has **promised** us before the world began—for God cannot lie.

## You Can Define "Promise" with One Word - Jesus !

Jesus "empowered" the "promises" of the Bible by doing what was promised in the Bible!

### Matt. 4:23-25

And Jesus went about all Galilee, **teaching** in their synagogues, **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing** all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. **:24** Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflicted with various diseases... ..and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He **healed** them. **:25** Great multitudes followed Him—from Galilee, and *from* Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

### Matt. 14:14-16

And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; and He was moved with compassion for them, and healed their sick. **:15** When it was evening, His disciples came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. Send the multitudes away, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." **:16** But Jesus said to them, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

### Isaiah 53:4-7

Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. **5** But He was wounded **for our transgressions**, He was bruised **for our iniquities**; The chastisement **for our peace** was upon Him, And by His stripes **we are healed**. **6** All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has **laid on Him the iniquity of us all**. **7** He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

# What Story Compares to This Story in Human Events ?

The Christmas Message Sets Jesus Christ Apart  
from All Others, All Others / All / others...

there are Cults that try to "associate" with Jesus Christ.

"Our Religious / Cult Founder has Many Things in Common with Jesus Christ,  
"as though that helps their corruption go down easier.

## My Favorite Christmas Verse of All

1 Timothy 3:16

And without controversy (*unable to refute this*) great is the mystery of godliness:  
God was **manifested** (*appeared*) in the flesh, was **Justified** in the Spirit,  
**Seen** by angels, **Preached** among the Gentiles, **Believed** on in the world,  
**Received** up in glory.

## !! It's That Word "Seen" that Grabs Me Every Time !!

**Seen:** 3700. ὀπτάνομαι optanomai, *op-tan'-om-ahee*,  
To gaze, being transfixed, to be wide eyed, be holding that which is something  
remarkable; an earnest, a continued inspection; a watching,  
a peering into, to lean into see.

*Something Happened in that Manger Scene  
and people have been blessed ever since !*

**"IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT  
JESUS CHRIST"**

**2.) We'd have to reject the *historical data***

**WE'D HAVE TO REJECT THE HISTORICAL DATA**

## **2a.) *The evidence is this - history itself***

### **John 21:24-25**

This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. :25 And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

## **WE'D HAVE TO REJECT THE HISTORICAL DATA**

## **2b.) *The evidence is this - recorded eyewitness accounts***

### **1John 1:1**

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— 2 the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— 3 that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

### **Luke 2:7-14**

And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. :8 ¶ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. :9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. :10 Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. :11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. :12 And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” :13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: :14 “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

## **The Eyewitness to The to Conduct of Roman Guards**

**Luke 23:34b-36a**

they divided His garments and cast lots. **35** And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God." **:36** The soldiers also mocked Him,

**Psalms. 22:18**

They divide My garments among them,  
And for My clothing they cast lots.

**2Pet. 1:16**

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

**WE'D HAVE TO REJECT THE HISTORICAL DATA**

**2c.) The evidence is this - societal / cultural change**

education, freedom, morality, respect, sacrifice,  
devotion, benevolence,

*The undisputed fact is, no single individual on earth, throughout history as given more, done more, to help more than the Christian - no one !*

**Because The Christian Believes That  
The Christmas Message is Real.**

**1 John 3:15-16**

Whoever **hates** his brother is a **murderer**, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. (goes to heaven) **:16** By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down *our* lives for the brethren. **17** But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?  
(answer - it doesn't)

**By The Way, What Year is It?**

Even our very date of the year is based upon Jesus' life.

**Acts 17:5**

But the Jews who were not persuaded, becoming envious, took some of the evil men from the marketplace, and gathering a mob, set all the city in an uproar and attacked the house of Jason, and sought to bring them out to the people. **6** But when they did not find them, they dragged Jason and some brethren to the rulers of the city, crying out, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too."

## **Nations Have Been Changed,**

*Cultures* and *Peoples* Have been Liberated from Sin,  
and a *Nations* Have Been Born.

### **"IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST"**

#### **3.) We'd have to deny the *personal testimonies***

#### **WE'D HAVE TO DENY THE PERSONAL TESTIMONIES**

#### **3a.) *Of those changed by the power of God***

Those Who's Lives Have Been Changed,  
have been changed by this message...

**John 3:15-17**

That whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life :**16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. :**17** For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

## **This "Gift" of Christmas is Jesus Christ !**

### **It's Gift**

*"That God would send us His Son"*

## **It's Gift**

*"That God would invite us into His heaven"*

## **It's Gift**

*"That God would pay for the ticket"*

## **It's Gift**

*"That God would love us at all"*

## **WE'D HAVE TO DENY THE PERSONAL TESTIMONIES**

### **3b.) Of those who have changed the world**

Who are They?

Great Men and Women of God Who, Worshipped and Followed Jesus Christ without Reservation.

Those who founded, the once great universities of the America & world

The Payne's, Jefferson's, Washington's, Witherspoon's, who declared that this nation was ordained of God

**But Taking The Cake Goes To...**

*"The Life, Education, Mission, and Passion of Saul of Tarsus.*

Saul of Tarsus was a Notable among Those in the First Century.

He was a devoted Jew and prosecutor against Christianity and ministry of Jesus Christ

**Roman History Acknowledges** *That Gamailil, Saul's Teacher, Stated That of all His Students, Saul of Tarsus was One That He Could not Supply Him Enough Books.*

**Phil. 3:7**

But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. **8** Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ **9** and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

It's This Saul, Who was Radically and Dramatically  
Converted to Christianity,

and became the greatest convert to Christ this world has ever known.

He Came to Believe and Love the Christmas Story

and His life is still altering the world today  
(the history channel - "the apostle Paul")

**WE'D HAVE TO DENY THE PERSONAL TESTIMONIES**

**3c.) *Of those whom we have known in this life***

All of us know people, whose lives have  
been changed by the gospel message of Christmas.

And to "What" is It That The Lord Desires to You Call into ?  
*A life of peace in heart, of love toward God, of caring and serving and*

The Apostle Paul Encouraged Timothy to  
Remember

**2 Tim. 1:6-7**

Therefore **I remind you** to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. **7** For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

**2Pet. 1:12**

For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth. **13** Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding *you*,

**Faithful Ministries Over The Years**  
*have blessed us, challenged us, equipped us*

**If You Need Ministry of Any Kind**

**As soon as this song is over, you come forward today, and experience  
God's mercy and grace in your own life.**

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*End of Study*

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