THE CHRISTMAS SERVICE SERIES 2008

The Celebration, Adoration and Defense of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, The Christmas Story

Luke 1:49

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"WHY WE WORSHIP HIM"

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

Part 3/4

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Salvation, Christmas, Faith, Hope, Love, Worship

Introduction to the Text;

Luke 1:49

"State Contextual Summation and Theme"

WHY We WORSHIP HIM?

Christmas is Celebrated Around the World and by More People Than Any Other Religious Holiday of the Year.

But What or Whom is Being Celebrated?

The Early Church Never Celebrated or Recognized Jesus' Birth on a Particular Day of the Year.

For The Early Church, The Meaning of His Coming was a Constant

It's Not the Date, But The Reason, The Purpose That Mattered & Matters

John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8, Romans 6:23

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. ...For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, ...For the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

SO WHEN "WE" SAY -- MERRY CHRISTMAS, WE KNOW WHAT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT

The Song or Magnificant of Mary

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said: "My soul magnifies the Lord, (she worshipped) :47 And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. (she recongined her redeemer) :48 For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; (she was humble) For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. (favoured by God) :49 For He who is mighty has done great things for me, And holy is His name. (she knew His nature) :50 And His mercy is on those who fear Him From generation to generation. (her knowledge of the Holy One) :51 He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered *the* proud in the imagination of their hearts. :52 He has put down the mighty from *their* thrones, And exalted *the* lowly. :53 He has filled *the* hungry with good things, And *the* rich He has sent away empty. :54 He has helped His servant Israel, In remembrance of *His* mercy, :55 As He spoke to our fathers, To Abraham and to his seed forever."

Luke 1:49 For He Who is Mighty has done great things for me, And Holy is His Name.



WHY WE WORSHIP HIM

7.) He's the God of all mercy

in the old testament the word **mercy** or **merciful הֵהֵ** checçed, kheh'-sed;

means benevolence, kindness, pity, deep consideration, to be moved in one's "inner being" of the situation of another.

Noah Webster's Defines "Mercy" in English;

that kind benevolence, mildness and tenderness of the heart which disposes a person to overlook an offender. to extend goodness toward someone who is not deserving of it. the release someone from a sentence of punishment. in this sense there is no adequate English word that can describe the depth of its meaning. Mercy is a distinguishing attribute of God, the Supreme Being.

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He's THE GOD OF ALL MERCY

7a.) The kind of mercy we need when we're wrong

The Christmas Story is a Message of Mercy !

Matt. 1:20-21

"...behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. **:21** And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

1John 2:2

And He Himself is the (the atoning sacrifice) **propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but <u>also for the whole world</u>.

An Example of Mercy / Luke 18:13

And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise *his* eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, "God, be **merciful** to me a sinner!"

I Can Have Mercy This Christmas

The Bible Says; He's the God of all mercy

Ex. 34:6

And the LORD passed before Moses and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD God, **merciful** and **gracious**, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth,

Psa. 103:11-3

For as the heavens are high above the earth, So great is His **mercy** toward those who fear Him; **:12** As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. **:13** As a father **pities** *his* children, So the LORD **pities** those who fear Him.



He's THE GOD OF ALL MERCY

7b.) The kind of mercy we need when we're suffering

There is Nothing More Comforting

when you're suffering then to have someone with you who loves you.

When I'm Suffering, I Want Sympathy - Now !

(all of us want a **merciful** doctor or nurse when we're not doing well)

Matt. 14:14

And when Jesus went out **He saw** a great multitude; and He was **moved with compassion** for them, and healed their sick.

Matt. 17:14-18

And when they had come to the multitude, a man came to Him, kneeling down to Him and saying, **:15** "Lord, have **mercy** on my son, for he's a lunatic and suffers severely; for he often falls into the fire and often into the water... **:18** And Jesus rebuked that demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

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He's THE GOD OF ALL MERCY

7c.) The kind of mercy we need when we're miserable

Far To Many People Invested Allot of Money Each Year to go about hiding the fact their Miserable in This Life.

Misery is Defined as;

the emotional trauma brought about by a calamity, misfortune, pain, grief. it's in relation to a long, drawn out, ongoing suffering.

miserable

a deep discontentment. totally unhappy, a sense of abandonment or condemnation.

misery loves "company" why?

because only those who have been miserable can comfort those who are.

Mark 1:40-42

Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." **:41** Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed." **:42** As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.

But Misery can Also Mean a Condemnation

Rom. 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus,

He's THE GOD OF ALL MERCY

7c.) The kind of mercy we need when we're miserable

Acts of Mercy in The Bible

Luke 23:33-34

And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. **:34** Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do."

John 8:10-11

Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" **:11** She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither **do I condemn you**; go and sin no more."

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WHY WE WORSHIP HIM

8.) He's the God of all grace

The Christmas Story is a Message of Grace !

The Word "Grace" is found 170 times in the Bible, 131 in the N.T.

First Occurrence of the Word Gen. 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD

It's Last Found in the Last verse of the Last book of the Bible

Rev. 22:21 The **grace** of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.



He's THE GOD OF ALL GRACE

8a.) The kind of grace we need when we're troubled

Grace @ Work

is the power of God at work within ever Christian and without it, we cannot survive in this world.

Sometimes it feels like were not going to make to the end... that's where his grace comes in.

John 14:1

"Let not your heart be **troubled**; (wave tossed) you believe in God, believe also in Me.

Rom. 5:2

through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

John 1:14

And the Word (the Logo's of God) **became flesh** and **dwelt among us**, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, **full of grace** and **truth**.

This "full" of grace

overflowing grace, more than enough grace, super grace, mega grace

grace.] . chen, khane;

divine favour or pleasure. to be deemed "graced" by God.

"teachers pet"

Your Salvation **Originates In** the Grace of God Your Salvation is **Kept thru** the Grace of God Your Salvation is **Coming by** the Grace of God

Eph. 2:8a For **by grace** you have been saved through faith...



He's THE GOD OF ALL GRACE

8b.) The kind of grace we need when we're weak

Heb. 4:14-16

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* confession. **:15** For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as *we are, yet* without sin. **:16** Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

2Cor. 12:8-9

Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. **:9** And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

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He's THE GOD OF ALL GRACE

8c.) The kind of grace we need when we're hurting

He's THE GOD OF ALL GRACE

8c.) The kind of grace we need when we're hurting

The Bible Teaches Us That The Lord Knows About Our "Hurts" in This Life

I Don't Understand Suffering and Hurting but I trust God when He says that...

Psa. 139:1-3

O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. **:2** You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. **:3** You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways.

James 1:2-4

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **:3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **:4** But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

I Understand That, But He's God and I'm Not.

Phil. 3:7-10

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; *:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,*



WHY WE WORSHIP HIM

9.) He's the God of all peace

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He's THE GOD OF ALL PEACE

9a.) The kind of peace we need when we're fearful

The "Christmas Jesus" is the "Prince of Peace" Jesus

Luke 12:32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Knowing Jesus Christ – Removes Fear, Intimidation and Anxiety Once We Focus On Him – We Begin To Rest and Relax

Phil. 4:6 Be **anxious** for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Peter Found This Out Well

"Lord Bid Me to Come You" - - and with that, Peter walked on water too !

2Pet. 1:2

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord,

1John 4:18

There is **no fear** in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment.

Rev. 1:17b-18

"Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. **:18** I *am* He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.



He's THE GOD OF ALL PEACE

9b.) The kind of peace we need when we're alone

Christmas Can Be a Lonely Time for Some People.

the loss of a loved one, a husband or a wife, the death of a child is perhaps the most painful at Christmas time.

This Horrible Sense of Being Alone

can overpower you and cause great emotional trauma.

Mankind Fear's Loneness

have you ever seen someone in an abusive or aberrant relationship? have you ever wondered why they stay in it? – because the fear of being alone is greater than the fear of abuse....

It's to old saying; "bad love is better than no love"

But the Lord says "No" to that !

His Love for You is an Everlasting Love

What Can We Do When We Feel Like This?

Psa. 34:15

The eyes of the LORD *are* on the righteous, And His ears *are open* to their cry.

Heb. 13:5

"For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

Matt. 28:20

... Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

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He's THE GOD OF ALL PEACE

9c.) The kind of peace we need when we're in the storms

Mark 4:36-40

Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. **:37** And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. **:38** But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?" **:39** Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm. **:40** But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How *is it* that you have no faith?"

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

ls. 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, Prince of Peace.

This Prince Offers You His Gift of Eternal Life.

•End of Study _

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