

CHRISTMAS SUNDAY SERVICE

SUNDAY DECEMBER 25, 2016
MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER JH 412

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

LET'S TAKE A LOOK

ANNOUNCING, DEBATING, CELEBRATING THE 1ST COMING OF JESUS CHRIST

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Christmas, Evangelism, Salvation, Hope, Apologetics

Introduction to the Text; 2 Peter 1:16

When we read the eyewitness accounts of all that

happened at this happy time - so long ago, we get an awesome series of events that record for us the Greatest News the World has and will ever know...

We also have amazing testimonies from

Real people actually who encountered Jesus Christ – face to face !

If we were investigators this morning, detectives,

truth-seekers – we would have to interview those who were there.

So we're going to be looking at the; Who, What When, Where and Why of Christmas.

2 Peter 1:16

For we were not making up clever stories when we told you about the powerful coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We saw his majestic splendor with our own eyes

1 John 1:1-2

We proclaim to you the one who was in existence even from before the beginning, who we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life! 2 This one who is life itself – was revealed to us, and we've seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you - - that he is Himself - Eternal life.

“Let’s Take A Look At...”

1.) The WHO of Christmas

The Bible Tells Us That There Are...

The “Who’s” of Christmas that are recorded on a long list of people - from every walk of life
and from every sphere of influence !

Did I Say People – I also mean “Angels” too.

There are Who’s - that are Angel’s
There are Who’s that are the Prophet’s
There are Who’s that are Shepherd’s
There are Who’s that are the Magi
There are the Who’s that were in the crowds. (perhaps like us today)
There are Who’s that are just 2 – Joseph and Mary

But did ya know that there’s another group of “Who’s”
mentioned in the Bible? It’s the future “Who’s” that would someday hear about the message of Christmas
! The Who’s that are You

“Let’s Take A Look At...”

2.) The WHAT of Christmas

The Bible Says...

That there is a “What” to Christmas and it’s a message. – Christmas is God’s
Message to the World.

We all know something about messages and messaging !

There are messages in a bottle. / There are messages in a letter / There are messages
on a note. / There are instant messages sent. There are text messages / we send
messages with a look,

But God sent us His message, personally; even wrapped up in a
package – as a Baby Boy.

Just as we will be giving and exchanging gifts

this morning to those we know and love – God was the ultimate Gift-Giver.

John 3:15-17

Whosoever 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 didn't send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

“Let's Take A Look At...”

3.) The WHEN of Christmas

The Bible Says...

That the very first Christmas would happen at a very specific time in human history.

- (1) When - the **Roman Empire** would be ruling the world.
- (2) When - the **Nation of Israel** would be prepared to host His coming.
- (3) When – the **World** needed His coming the most.

It's Been Said That;
“Timing is Everything” and When Jesus Came -

Galatians 4:4-5

But when **the right time** came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. **5** God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.

Matthew 4:13-16

He went first to Nazareth, then left there and moved to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. **14** This fulfilled what God said through the prophet Isaiah :**15** “In the land of Zebulun and of Naphtali, beside the sea, beyond the Jordan River, in Galilee where so many Gentiles live, **16** the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light. And for those who lived in the land where death casts its shadow, a light has shined.”

“Let's Take A Look At...”

4.) The WHERE of Christmas

The Bible Says...

That the stage for the very first Christmas had to be arranged in a very specific way.

God loves arranging things.

Just look at the order of things in creation. Look at the animal kingdom.

there would have to be some pretty remarkable things set in place.

But not to worry...

Isaiah 46:9b-10

For I alone am God! I am God, and there is none like me. **10** Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass.

The Where of Christmas

Obviously began with the writings of the Hebrew Prophets.

But then it was manifested in actuality, in real life places.

But the combined evidence of (1) **Who** it involved, and (2) **What** the message was, and (3) **When** it all had to take place and (4) **Where** it had to unfold... leads us to consider that the final destination as to where is a matter of the human heart, your heart - -

Luke 2:1-4

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. **2** (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) **3** All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. **4** And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home.

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."

"Let's Take A Look At..."

5.) The WHY of Christmas

The Bible Says...

That the Why of Christmas is The Most Important Thing of All

The Angels said this;

Luke 2:8-14

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!"**

Matthew 1:20-23

But while he thought about these things, 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.**” :22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through **the prophet Isaiah**, saying: **23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,”** which is translated, “**God with us.**”

**On this grand and glorious day, We pause to
recognize that fact – the fact,**

that Jesus Christ is the Lord Messiah and Saviour of Mankind, but that could never have happened unless Jesus fulfilled His purpose for coming.

**That Purpose was His Mission and that Mission was that Baby Jesus was
born to die on a cruel cross...**

John 3:18-19

“He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **19** And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light,

COME TO JESUS TODAY

The Cross, The Christ, The Call

End of Study