

CHRISTMAS WEEK SUNDAY SERVICE

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER: JHX468

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2019

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

The Expense

The Overriding Value, Benefit, Joy and Expense
of Christ's Gift of Eternal Life and The Forgiveness of Our Sins.

Luke 2:1-16

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. 3 So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. :4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. 6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. 7 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!" 15 So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."
16 And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

O' The Sounds of Christmas

"Hark the Herald Angel sing" (?) Glory to the newborn King
"I'm dreaming of a" (?) White Christmas
"Have a Holly" (?) Jolly Christmas
"I saw mommy" (?) Kissing Santa Claus

The Other Sounds of Christmas

What size is it? / Will it shrink? / What kind of batteries does it take?
Can it get wet? / Does it come in a different color? / You shouldn't have.....

Silent Night

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. Round yon Virgin,
Mother and Child. Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born.
Silent night, holy night! Son of God love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face with dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.

Matthew 2:1-11

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." :3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. :5 So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet. 6 "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah; For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' ":7 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also." :9 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. 11 And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (*gifts, each and every one – expensive*)

The 13 Million Dollar Rolls-Royce Sweptail

<https://www.roadandtrack.com/new-cars/a9954783/this-dollar13-million-rolls-royce-tookfour-years-to-build/>

Vacheron Constantin Tour de l'Ile – \$1.5 million.

<http://www.strongestinworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/9-Vacheron-Constantin-Tour-de-L'Ile.jpg>

The 100 foot Yacht “History Supreme” at \$4.5 Billion

<https://www.cheatsheet.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/A-big-expensive-yacht-1024x707.jpg?x33802>

Robert Knok, Malaysia’s wealthiest person, owns the History Supreme, a 100-foot-long yacht made of solid gold. the Boat’s master bedroom has a wall made of meteorites and a statue made from the bones of T-Rex Dinosaurs.

The value of something ought to be measured by what (1) it can do or (2) by what it means. Stop and think for a moment of what it is that you personally own or desire? What do you estimate the value to be of what it is that you have or desire? Whatever it is - I promise you, it will come down to it's personal meaning to you and that will determine it's value - - to you, personally!

So then, You cannot truly know **The Expense** of Christmas unless you know the value of Christmas.

The Expense

1.) There’s the expense of how much did it cost?

What is The Expense of a Gift Based On?

Galatians 2:16

Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

Wait a minute here – I don’t have that can of currency (\$) to pay.

2 Corinthians 5:18-20 NLT

And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. 19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. 20 So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!”

The True, Yet Darker Side of Christmas is The Cross

John 10:18

No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father.”

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Isaiah 50: 6-7

I gave My back to those who struck Me, And My cheeks to those who plucked out the beard; I did not hide My face from shame and spitting.
7 “For the Lord GOD will help Me; Therefore I will not be disgraced; Therefore I have set My face like a flint, And I know that I will not be ashamed.

Isaiah 53:3-6 NIV

3 He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide (we naturally reject him) their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. 4 Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. 6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Gift Giving is Personal.

(but why is that true?)

(1st.) **Because it’s done out of love.**

(2nd.) **Because it’s done out of empathy / association.**

**“I love to give the exact same gift that I would like to receive.
I give to others - - what I myself want or need.”**

Psalm 22:14-16

I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me. **15** My strength is dried up like a potsherd, And My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death. **16** For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet;

The Expense

2.) There is the expense of who's going to pay for it

This is a fun time of the year – going to the mailbox you're looking for greetings and cards and letters from loved ones – not bills

I abhor getting (paying) a “Late Payment”

“Who is going to pay for this bill when it comes due?”

**We've all heard people talk about things like:
Justice. Fairness. Equality. Tolerance.
We know these words because they are within us as human beings.**

We are the ones that demand “Justice” when wrong is committed and rightly so. But we cannot have both ways. We cannot demand justice (a divine trait) against someone, while at the same time expecting our wrongdoing to be left unchecked – *justice is and will be for all in due time!!!*

1 Peter 1:18-19

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

The Bible Says Romans 6:23b

The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace

2 Corinthians 8:8-9

I speak not by commandment, but I am testing the sincerity of your love by the diligence of others. 9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

Why does sin need to be paid for anyway?
Can't God just look the other way, or can't I just go to an ATM
and take care of it?

The Expense

3.) There is the expense of getting it delivered

John 1:1,14a

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. :14 And the Word **became flesh and dwelt among us,**

The Bible Says Luke 2:12, 15-16

12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a **Babe wrapped** in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." **15** So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." **16** And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the **Babe lying** in a manger.

The Bible Says: Hebrews 10:5-7

Therefore, when He came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, **But a body You have prepared for Me.** 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7 Then I said, "Behold, I have come in the volume of the book it is written of Me to do Your will, O God.' "

The Expense

4.) There is the expense of will it be the right fit?

End of Study

Copyright © Sunday, December 22, 2019 by Jack Hibbs