CHRISTMAS SERVICE 2006

THE CELEBRATION, ADORATION AND DEFENSE OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD, THE CHRISTMAS STORY MATTHEW 2:1-2

Tape Number JHX185 December 24, 2006

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 4/4

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."

Charlie Brown Christmas

at that point - - the entire mood of the Charlie brown's Christmas changes In Fact, the neighborhood changes as it refocuses, the kids themselves reconsider the Meaning of Christmas, and Once again, Christmas is Saved because those involved have been reminded of what Christmas is all about!

"IMAGINE À CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST"

1.) Why Would I?

Why Would I Want to Imagine a Christmas Without Jesus Christ?
What Kind of a Weird and Crazy Thought is That?

WHY WOULD I IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HIM?

1a.) When, It's Jesus Christ Who Valued Your Life

Maybe We Would Imagine This...

1John 3:16

By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us.

2 Cor. 5:19

that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself,

WHY WOULD I IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HIM?

1b.) When, It's Jesus Christ Who Planned Your Life

Jer. 29:11-12

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. **12** Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

WHY WOULD I IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HIM?

1c.) When, It's Jesus Christ Who Desired Your Life

John 10:27-28

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. **28** And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.

"IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST"

2.) Why Should I?

Why Should I Want to Imagine a Christmas Without Jesus Christ?
Should I Go Against History and Against the Bible?
Against Reason and Logic?

From "Why Would I" to Why Should I?

WHY SHOULD I IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HIM?

2a.) When God's the One who said "Legin Again"

Maybe We Should Imagine This...

Every Time Jesus Met Someone

Who was Sorrow for What They Had Done in Life, Sorrow to God for Being Mean, Proud, Hurtful, Lustful, Envious, Selfish....

Brother are You in Trouble!

Luke 7

"Your sins which are many, have been forgiven you, Your faith in me has saved you. Go in peace and sin no more"

WHY SHOULD I IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HIM?

2b.) When God's the One who said "Follow Me"

Mark 5:18

And when He got into the boat, he who had been demon-possessed begged Him that he might be with Him. **19** However, Jesus did not permit him, but said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them what great things the Lord has done for you, and how He has had compassion on you."

WHY SHOULD I IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HIM?

2c.) When God's the One who said "Be With Me"

No Greater Picture of God's Redemptive Love is Seen Than When Jesus Said to the Thief on The Cross...

Luke 23:43

Today, You'll Be With Me in Paradise (Jesus had to have a smile in his heart at that moment)

This Sinner was the First of Countless Millions Throughout the Ages That Have Been Rescued @ That Last Moment of Earthly Life.

"IMAGINE À CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JESUS CHRIST"

3.) How Could I?

"Why Would I" - - Why Should I? - - How Could I?

Maybe We Could Imagine This...

HOW COULD I IMAGINE A CHRISTMAS WITHOUT HIM?

3a.) When it's been Jesus that I've needed all along

Maybe We Could Imagine This...

Everything in your life has been to get you to consider Him

He didn't **cause** those things, but He'll **use** those things.

Rom. 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

How Could I Imagine a Christmas Without Him?

3b.) When it's been Jesus that I've been looking for

It's not what you can get from this world that's going to make you happy in life. this world cant even take of its self, how could it ever take care of you and I?

Things are not as they seem

The Que for Charlie Brown's Christmas "Materialism / Commercialism"

How Could I Imagine a Christmas Without Him?

3c.) When it's been Jesus that I've wanted for Christmas

I Hope I Get That		
Binford 4000		
and then what?		

If I Get That New Flat Screen, Plasma, HD, Satellite System, Then What?

The Banners:

"Love, Peace, & Joy"

driving through Anaheim hills Friday night

explain that to me

"Love, - what? Peace, - when? & Joy - where?"

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS,

It's The "Christ Mass" that is - - it's the "Gathering around" the "Christ"

There it's going to be a Merry Christmas, again!

Jesus Christ came once before, and when you read the "not so fine" print of the bible.

You see that He's coming again!

You don't have to believe in Christmas today, but you will someday! Because Jesus Christ is coming again

Matthew 24:27

For as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be...

John 14:3

I will come again and receive you to Myself;

Listen, Friend

It's Christmas and What Will Give Him.

The Wise men Brought Him Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh

Matthew 2:11

And when Wisemen had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts:

of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Their Gifts Were Prophetic - Speaking of the Future.

The Gold

In the oriental customs of the Middle East, kings were to be given gold in honor of their Kingship authority and character.

Their Gift Matched Their Confession
- Jesus was Their King!

The Frankincense

Frankincense was symbolic of His Divine Priesthood and Ministry, One that Would be marked by Salvation and Intercession for us.

Their Gift Matched Their Confession - Jesus Christ was Their Priest!

The Myrrh

Used in that part of the world, it was the Embalming Ointment of the day. It was crushed and mixed and poured out upon a dead body. It was an act of Love and Farewell to a Deceased loved one.

Their Gift Matched Their Confession - Jesus was Their New Life!

At The Death of Jesus John 19:39-40

That Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. **40** Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.

Confirmation of These Things?

The early church Fathers taught that the gold symbolized the deity of Jesus Christ, the frankincense of His priesthood, and myrrh, that the child was born to die, only to live again!

Today, What Will Be Your Confession?

What Will Be Your Gift to the Christ?

I Know What He Wants.

He Wants You. Every Square Inch of You. He Wants Your Mind, Your Body, Your Possessions. He Wants Your

Will Your Gift Match Your Confession Today?

- Jesus Christ was Their King!
- Jesus Christ was Their Priest!
 - Jesus Christ was Their Life!
- Is Jesus Christ is Your King at Christmas?
- Is Jesus Christ is Your Priest at Christmas?
 - Is Jesus Christ is Your Life at Christmas?

1 John 5:10-13

He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. 11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.

Will It Be HMerry Christmas for You?

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.

End of Study	