

Remember the last thing the angel spoke of in the Christmas story?

3) It was “Peace, good will toward men.”

Let us look at one last Christmas verse:

In **Colossians 1:20**, God tells us that He “*made peace through the blood of [Jesus’] cross.*”

Friend, do you see what the first gift of Christmas is?

The gift is peace between sinners and God

Friend, God’s gift to you for Christmas is Heaven.

Romans 6:23 “...*the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*”

Baby Jesus was born to die. He suffered a cruel death. A crown of thorns was placed on His head. A sword pierced His side, and nails were driven into His hands. He died, and three days later He rose from the grave. He did it for you! He did it for me!

God’s Christmas gift is His Son’s death in exchange for our forgiveness. And it’s ours if we yet Believe Him!!

Romans 10:13

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Call upon Him Today,

“O Lord, I know I am a sinner unworthy of Heaven. But I believe that Jesus died and arose for me. I am asking you to save me because of what Jesus did!”

In Jesus name I pray, Amen.



Meeting at

40 Rookwood Ave
New Brighton
Due to earthquake

Sunday

Sunday services: 3:30 pm

Sunday School and & Adult Bible Class: 2pm
(School Terms Only)

Wednesday

Bible Study / Prayer Meeting: Wednesdays
7:00 pm
(Various homes)

Website

www.chchindbaptist.co.nz

For more information

Pastor: 021 237 5566

WHAT'S FOR CHRISTMAS



What's for Christmas?

Or better yet

What's Christmas for?

Ever wondered? Many believe the meaning of Christmas is found in what is often called "The Christmas story." It's in this story they would say, that we find 'the gift of Christmas...'



Luke 2:10-11, 14

"The angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord... Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Familiar verses, you might say. But when something is so familiar, we can miss things at times. Did you catch these words:

"...good tidings..."?

"...A Saviour..."?

"...peace, good will toward men..."?

1st To what exactly were these good tidings referring?
2nd Why is He called "...a Saviour"? I mean, what did He save?

3rd Have you ever wondered how a Baby Jesus' being born would bring peace to anyone?

These are all honest and good questions really. In fact, I'm sure they have been asked many a time.

But if I might ask **the bigger question:**

WHAT DO I MEAN BY THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS ANYWAY?

To answer that, let's look at those other questions first:

1) What were the "good tidings" speaking of?

This first one is really easy. The good tidings the angel mentioned in the verses speak of the Saviour. The angel said, "I bring you good tidings... for unto you is born... a Saviour..."

The harder question is actually the next one:

2) Why did the angel call Baby Jesus, "...a Saviour..."?

Let's see if we can answer this with some other favourite Christmas verses.

Have you ever read these?

Ecclesiastes 7:20 *...there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.* Or

Romans 3:10, *"There is none righteous, no not one."* What about **Galatians 3:22** *"...the scripture hath concluded all under sin."*

WHY SUCH GRIM VERSES FOR CHRISTMAS? BELIEVE IT OR NOT THEY ARE ACTUALLY CHRISTMAS VERSES...

I Corinthians 6:9 tells us more: *"Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?"*

(What does all this have to do with the gift of Christmas anyway? I Promise it does; so stay with me.)

Would not that last verse, I Corinthians 6:9, mean that no one will inherit the kingdom of God?

Well this is why the angel called Baby Jesus "...a Saviour."

Now to *the gift of Christmas...*



Look at these next two Christmas verses:

Romans 5:6 "When we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly."

2 Corinthians 5:21 *"[God] hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."*

But are all these verses really teaching 'the gift of Christmas'? They are, and I will prove it to you.