



From the Heart of the Superintendent - David K. Holtzhouse, M.R.E.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Luke 2:11 states, "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." NIV. John reports, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

John 1:1,2,&14. Matthew tells us that "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel which means "God with us". Matthew 1:23

Centuries ago, God made good on His promise from Genesis 3:15. God sent us His Son, Jesus Christ, as the greatest gift ever given. Jesus, in turn, lived a perfect life and then died in our place, for our sin. Why did all this happen? Because, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16 KJV. This is the essence of Christmas. Without Christ, there would not be any reason for festivities, celebrations, gift giving, and the great joy that we have.

I pray that you will experience a Christ-filled Christmas this year. Please take time to read the scriptures and the great accounts of Christ's birth as told by the Gospel writers. Take time to reflect on the greatness of that first gift. Remember that Jesus was born so that He could die and open up the way for us to spend eternity in Heaven. He is the sole reason we celebrate. May you be blessed as you contemplate and meditate on these truths this Christmas.