



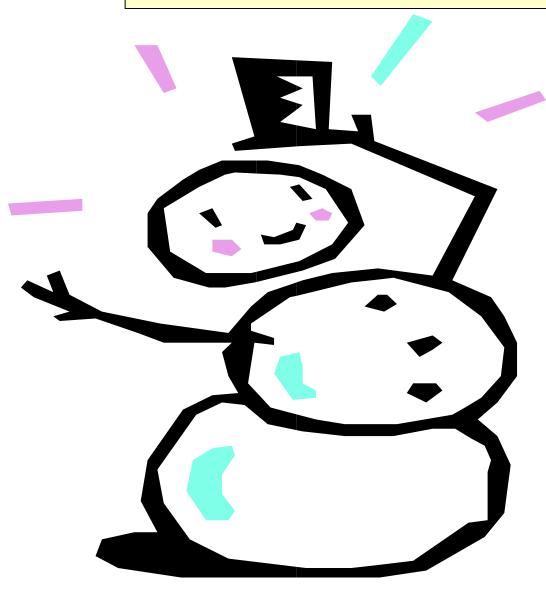
THE REST OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY



GOD'S WORD SAYS:

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners."

1 Timothy 1:15



The Rest of the Christmas Story

This is an exciting time of year! At Thanksgiving, we stuff ourselves full of turkey and all sorts of goodies. The next day parents start shopping for deals on Christmas presents. Then, we have a whole month to prepare for Christmas. We decorate the house with lights, trim the Christmas tree, select presents for our loved ones, sing carols... and the list goes on and on.

Christmas is the time of year for Christmas cookies, Christmas trees, Christmas carols, candy canes, and egg nog. Most of us get together with our family and friends during the holidays. We exchange presents, eat a huge dinner, laugh, and enjoy the season. Many Christmas cards tell us to enjoy the "spirit of the season all year long."

What happens after we take down all those decorations and take down the tree for the year? Are we feeling the so-called "spirit of the season" when all of our presents are opened and wrapping paper thrown away?

Within the various festivities of the season, the true reason for the season is often lost. We would have no reason to celebrate if it weren't for the birth of Jesus over 2,000 years ago.

Most of us have heard the story of His virgin birth in a manger to Mary and Joseph. We have heard of the shepherds and the angels. We have heard of the wise men and the star that led them to where the Child lay that night. We celebrate a glorious event when we rejoice in the birth of Jesus Christ.

Do you know the rest of the story?

The Boy in a manger grew, lived a perfect life, and died on the cross for the sins of all mankind. He had a reason for coming to earth. 1 Timothy 1:15 tell us that "Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners."

The Bible also tells us that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

We needed Him to come to earth to pay for our sins. Without His work on the cross, we would be facing an eternity in the lake of fire. There would be no hope, no peace, no joy, and no rest, no reason to have joy and celebrate.

Do you know the rest of the story?

Jesus Christ was placed in a tomb, but He didn't remain in the grave. He defeated death so that we may have life through what He has done (Romans 4:25). He is now the Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus.

You can have an eternal life in Heaven. By recognizing that you are a sinner in need of a Savior, simply put your faith in trust in the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ to save you (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

When we place our faith and trust in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, we are guaranteed a home in Heaven someday.

The true "spirit of the season" is the work of Jesus Christ. Because of what He has done, we can celebrate every day of the year. By faith in His work, the end of the Christmas story is the beginning of eternity for us.

Have you trusted that Jesus Christ came to die for your sin, was buried and rose again to save you? If not, will you do so today?



Christ came into the world.

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