

Go to Church Christmas

We Know Little of Truth

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From whence came the light? What made it shine? Why does light travel at 186,000 miles per second, so fast, so far? Why did God send the Light of Jesus, into a world of error, love in the time of the hatred of Herod, a Babe in Bethlehem?

Of these "wheres" and "whys" we know little. Of the actual birth and childhood of the Christ we have scant knowledge; a few shepherds a brief message, some wise men, that's all.

... and Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, in favor with God and man." (Luke 2:52)—little more.

But, with the coming of that birth we do know mankind has not been the same since.

Love and peace have not been fully known. But the way has been disclosed to man so he may one day find the elusive "peace on earth, goodwill to men."

So we give pause at Christmas to pay honor to a Babe, even in a world of trial and trouble, in a day of war and rumors of war, acknowledging Him of a lowly manger, a king among philosophers, the Master of teachers, the Lord of all.

There was "no vacancy" to Him at the inn. But in the nights and days since many have found room to let Him in, and the Light has shone.

It cannot be hid. It has not gone out. As we sing the old carols, preserve the ideals, appreciate the heritage that we often take for granted, the Miracle of Christmas will be repeated.

There will be joy in time of sorrow peace in spite of war love permeating, resounding in your home and mine.

"O Holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us as we pray, Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today."

Puritans Banned Christmas

In their attempt to do away with all forms of frivolity in England, the Puritan government banned the celebration of Christmas in 1643. Although holidays traditions were restored by the Stuarts, the Christmas season never quite regained its place of importance in English celebrations. Today it is observed as a religious day in the churches and as a day for family gatherings, but has never again been celebrated with the boisterous spirit and sumptuous feasting of olden times.

The English people celebrate to a greater extent on Boxing Day, December 26, marking this day with gift-giving and parties. This feast day antedates Christmas and is traced to the custom of gift-giving during the Roman festival of Saturnalia.

So, today the children receive their gifts in boxes and it is the day that employers remember their old employees with gift boxes.

They presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
MATT. 2:11



The Nativity, according to St. Luke

(Chapter 2—Verses 1 through 17) And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenus was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And 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. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven the shepherds said one to another . . . Let us now go

even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Visit of the Wise Men, according to St. Matthew

(Chapter 2—Verses 1 through 13) Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet, And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda; for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word

again, that I may come and worship him also. When they heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold and frankincense, and myrrh. And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will see the young child, to destroy him.

Word 'Xmas' Not Always Irreligious

It is a common belief that the word "Xmas" is improper and sacrilegious. It is thought that this usage indicates disrespect and lack of dignity. The Greek name for Christ is "X" and is represented by this letter. Its shape, by coincidence, is also a cross, which came to represent the figure and symbol of Christ. When Christians in the early periods of Christianity wished to make a representation of the Trinity, they placed an "X" or a cross beside the names of the Father and the Holy Ghost. From this usage came the shortened form of Xmas to stand for the complete word Christmas.

In Other Languages...

It's easy to say "Merry Christmas" in many languages with this check-list of greetings in other tongues! "Joyeux Noel" in French; "Froeliche Weihnachten" in German; "Buon Natale" in Italian. The Spanish have the words for it with "Felices Pascuas" or "Felices Navidades" in Holland they say "Een Vrolijk Kerstfeest," the Danes greet each other with "en Gledelig Jule," or as the Norwegians would say, "Gledelig Jule." In Czechoslovakia, they greet one another with "Veselé Vánoce," in Swedish, "God Jul." Education, which is reportedly universal and compulsory in Russia, begins at the age of seven.

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THE COVER

Cover picture for this section is of the junior choir of the Klamath Falls Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. The choir is composed of approximately 25 young people of the church, under the direction of Mrs. Ronald Phair. The pianist is Mrs. Chris McKell. Parts of the first trans-Atlantic cable are still in use.

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| <h3>Make it easy on YOURSELF..</h3> <p>USE OUR GOOD YEAR LAY-AY FOR XMAS PLAN</p> | <p>For the long haul from kitchen to parlor!</p> <p>10⁴⁹</p> <p>TRAILER TRUCK</p> <p>Excellent detailed in sturdy steel with removable hardware sides. Treaded tires. Double wheels on trailer. Realistic!</p> <p>Another Goodyear Value!</p> | <h3>Two-Story Dream House!</h3> <p>3⁹⁸</p> <p>DOLL HOUSE</p> <p>Your big room! Sturdily built with ample space for comfortable doll house homemaking. 23 1/4" x 16" x 9 1/4". Colorfully finished.</p> | <p>Where's The Fire... Here's the Truck!</p> <p>25⁹⁵</p> <p>Complete with two ladders and fireball. All steel body. Rubber tires. Ball bearing wheels. Easy to run.</p> <p>Another Goodyear Value!</p> |
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| <p>Like the real McCoy! Doepke Model</p> <h3>UNIT CRANE</h3> <p>Authentic reproduction that actually works... boom swings and picks up.</p> <p>14⁷⁵</p> <p>Boom 19 1/2" Chassis 11 1/2" All Steel</p> <p>Another Goodyear Value!</p> | <p>Up and over it goes!</p> <h3>CLIMBING TANK</h3> <p>2⁹⁸</p> <p>This realistic model of an army tank crawls over obstacles on rubber treads that really grip. Strong wind-up motor.</p> <p>Another Goodyear Value!</p> | <p>Use a junior Cavalryman!</p> <h3>U.S. Cavalry SIX SHOOTER</h3> <p>98^c</p> <p>Like the real thing! So realistic! Your little trooper will be thrilled with his U. S. Cavalry six gun. Khaki colored plastic with U. S. stamped on barrel.</p> <p>Another Goodyear Value!</p> | <p>ROCKING HORSE</p> <p>6⁹⁵</p> <p>This age old toy has never lost its appeal. Sturdy plastic horse on legs and rockers of ponderosa pine. Colorful and bright.</p> <p>Another Goodyear Value!</p> |
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