

# BRINGING THE WORD OF LIFE

## E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

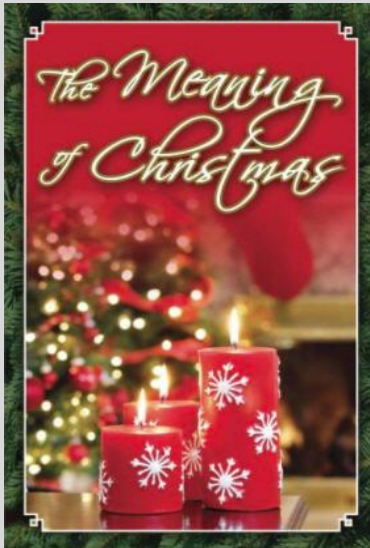
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'...that you may know that you have eternal life.' 1 John 5:13

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For many of us, Christmas is one of our favourite times of the year. It is nice to get a break from our normal routines and to spend time with our family and friends.

Many families have special Christmas customs and traditions, involving decorations, meals, songs, and the exchanging of gifts with loved ones. All of these things are very nice, but is this the true meaning of Christmas?

It seems that every year the stores put up their Christmas displays earlier and earlier, and that each year there is increasing pressure to buy more and more expensive gifts. There also seems to be a competition to see who can put up the largest and most elaborate display of decorations. With all of these things, it is very easy to lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas.

But as we strip away the layers of glitter, commercialism, and tradition that surround the celebration of Christmas, the holiday's true meaning becomes easier to see. Here we can see a star that reminds us of the star that the wise men followed two thousand years ago while seeking the new-born King. Who is this King? As the angels said to the shepherds, "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11). *Christmas* is the day that we celebrate the birth of the *Christ*—Jesus the Son of God.

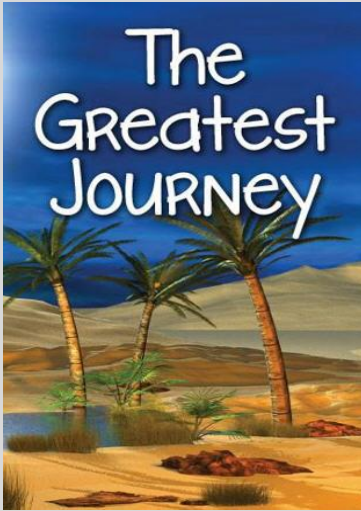
What was the reason that Jesus left his home in heaven to come to this world? Was it simply to do good works, or to leave an example for us to follow? No, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Timothy 1:15). He came to deal once and for all with the problem of sin that separates every one of us from God. "But I'm not a sinner!" you might say. Have you ever lied? Have you ever had an impure thought? God's Word is very true when it says, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23).

Yes, we are all sinners, and if judged on our own merits, would all come short of heaven. Sadly, many people don't realize that "Every one of us shall give account of himself to God" and that "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him" (Romans 14:12; John 3:36). But here is where the distractions of the holiday disappear completely, and the true meaning of Christmas becomes clear to see. Christmas is all about God's great love for us and the priceless gift that He offers to all.

This gift, the gift of eternal life (Romans 6:23), was purchased when Jesus, the sinless Sacrifice, died on the cross for our sins. Now He is risen from the dead and offers eternal life to everyone who will confess their sins to Him and trust Him as their Saviour.

**"For 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).**

If you have never made Jesus *your* Saviour, do it now. Then you can celebrate the true meaning of Christmas! *Moments with the Book*



About 2,000 years ago, Jesus, the Son of God, left His home in Heaven and came to Earth. It was the beginning of the greatest journey ever made.

### How Did He Come?

Jesus didn't travel in a spaceship, or ride a shooting star. He was born as a baby to Mary, who was told by an angel of God that she would be His mother.

### Where Did He Come?

Mary and her husband Joseph lived in a small town called Nazareth in the country of Israel. But they had to take a trip to Bethlehem, and that is where Jesus was born.

### Why Did He Come?

Jesus made the long journey from Heaven because it was a very important part of God's plan. He came to Earth and became a man, so He could save us from our sins and we could go to Heaven. God loves us so much that He gave us the best gift ever!

### How Did He Grow Up?

After He was born as a baby, Jesus got bigger and stronger, just like you. What made Him different, though, is that He never did anything wrong. He never cheated at a game, or told a lie, or disobeyed His parents.

### What Did He Do?

After Jesus grew up, He started teaching people about God. He also did many miracles, like healing the sick and even bringing dead people back to life.

### Why Did He Die?

The most important thing Jesus did was die on the cross to take away our sins. Because He was perfect, He had no sins to be punished for. But He took God's punishment for our sins instead.

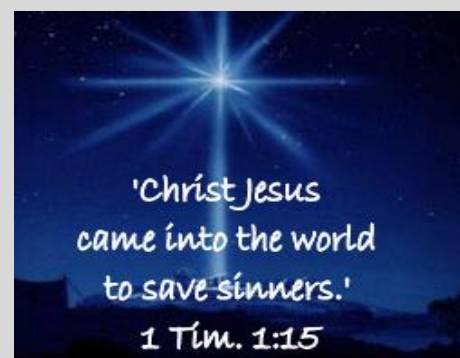
### Where Did He Go?

After Jesus died, He rose again and went to Heaven. How can we go to Heaven with Him? First, we need to realize that we are sinners who need God's help to be made ready for Heaven. Then we must trust what Jesus has done for us, by believing that He died for us and rose again.

*"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9). Moments with the Book*

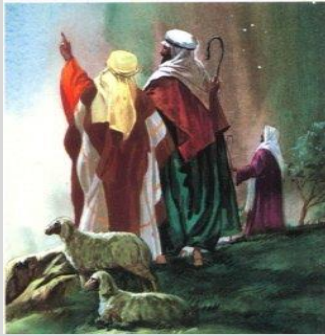
## THE WISE MEN WORSHIPPED HIM

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. (Luke 2:11)



## WISE MEN STILL DO!

## WHO IS HE?



**Who is he in yonder stall  
at whose feet the shepherds fall?**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Who is he, in deep distress,  
fasting in the wilderness?**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Who is he to whom they bring  
All the sick and sorrowing?**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Who is he that stands and weeps  
at the grave where Lazarus sleeps?**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Who is He the gathering throng  
Greet with loud triumphant song?**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Lo, at midnight who is he  
prays in dark Gethsemane?**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Who is he on yonder tree  
Dies in grief and agony**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Who is he that from the grave  
comes to succour help and save?**

Refrain:

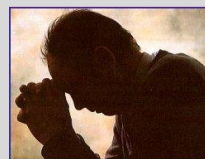
'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

**Who is he that from his throne  
rules through all the worlds alone?**

Refrain:

'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story!  
'Tis the Lord, the King of glory;  
at his feet, we humbly fall,  
crown him, crown him Lord of all!

## POINT TO PONDER



He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name. (John 1:10-12)

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