



Sponsored By: Metropolitan Baptist Church - Pastor James Turner 817-237-2201 - church@metrobc.org · www.metrobc.org

Dearly Beloved,

December, 2020

Thanks to each of you who pray and support us and this ministry, Pray for pastors who are under the stress of these situations. Pray for our Country, for the Gospel to be preached and God's leadership. Thanks to all who continue to support and encourage as well. Each of you are a Blessing to us. In the midst of all the above, the Lord has blessed us all, Amen?

Activities and Churches we have been involved with.

Bible Baptist Church	Anniversary Revival	Paul Pryor	Buffalo, TX
Heritage Baptist Church	Weekend	Jim Housely	Lufkin, TX
Metropolitan Baptist Church	Covid-19 Supply	Jim Turner	Fort Worth, TX

WHICH TREE?

Amid the celebration of the birth of Christ, we should remember that He did not come to give us a holiday once a year. The celebration of Christ is much more than his birth. He came as the greatest gift of love ever given. He came as God's *"unspeakable gift"*. He came not to be born, but to die on the cross of Calvary. He came not, primarily, as a baby, but as a Savior. His ministry is not for a season, but for every day and eternity.

The Scriptures record the Christmas story, one of the most important events of all time. But it is recorded by only two writers of the New Testament record. Matthew records the birth of the King and the visitation of the wise men from the East. Luke records the lowly birth of a baby in a stable, the song of the Heavenly Host, and the worship of the shepherds. In these two accounts we get the picture of the Divinity of the Messiah (the annointed one) and the Humanity of the Son Of Man.

John then gives the Christmas Gospel in one verse; ***"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. It is in the giving of Himself that He becomes the Savior of the world. It's not in a baby, in the Savior's birth at Bethlehem that we rejoice. .

We hang our gifts upon the Christmas tree, which has become a symbol of Christmas to this generation. God hung His gift upon another tree. It is the tree of shame and disgrace, ***Gal. 3:13 says "cursed is everyone that hangs on a tree"***. The Bethlehem Baby was born in the shadow of the cross. The salvation purchased there on the cross is the real gift of Christmas.

The cross, then, is the real Christmas tree. Christ is the real gift of Christmas. We have many other gifts; life, salvation, forgiveness, joy, peace, love, mercy, grace, heaven, righteousness, Holy Spirit, and etc. But every gift is found at this tree. It is only as we come to the cross, as we give Him ourselves, as we accept the gift of the Savior of Calvary, that we can ever have any of these things. The gifts of this tree are not seasonal but eternal. Once we have the Savior, He will never let us go. Truly, the Christ of Christmas is the "Gift that keeps on giving". He is not to be packed away, but is to be exhibited every day of our lives. When the Christmas wrappings are put away, He will still be there. When the celebration is over, He will still be there. When all men have forsaken you, He will never leave you or forsake you. You can depend on this ***"Friend that sticketh closer than a brother"***. ***"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."*** 2 Corinthians 9:15

SUSIE AND I WANT TO ASK GOD'S BLESSINGS UPON YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AT THIS "CHRISTMAS SEASON". WE TRUST THE LORD FOR A "BLESSED NEW YEAR" THAT WILL BRING US CLOSER TO THE LORD, AND THAT WILL STRENGTHEN OUR FAITH IN JESUS!

Bro. Wayne & Mrs. Susie

FOR WE PREACH NOT OURSELVES, BUT CHRIST JESUS THE LORD, AND OURSELVES YOUR SERVANTS FOR JESUS' SAKE. 2CORINTHIANS 4:4