Message of Christmas - 12/20/20

We are now living in the Christmas season...celebrating an awesome event. The Creator came down from heaven and became one of us.

This is what Christmas is all about - the Creator identified himself with us. How extremely humble and kind... taking on the same body that we have, And conquering the fallen nature for us, and completely paying our debt And offering eternal life and eternal happiness...

We have been in Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. When we were there, I was looking at all the hills, and the terrain where King David grew up, Where Samuel came to anoint him. That was very special.

Then to be in Nazareth where Jesus grew up, a very ordinary little town. In Jerusalem, to look up at the mount where Jesus was crucified.

And to be in the tomb where He was buried / and resurrected.

But Satan does everything he can to <u>distract</u> man from the real meaning. What has <u>rudolph the red nose reindeer</u> got to do with God becoming man. What's <u>frosty the snowman</u> or <u>santa claus</u>, to do with God becoming man. What does the Easter bunny have to do with the resurrection of Christ? Why do some people refer to Christmas as Xmas? Anything to deflect, to distract man from the real meaning of life.

So, let's talk about the real meaning of Christmas.

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the one who created heaven and earth, our Creator. Literally, God totally identified himself with the human race and was born and became a man. This is so amazing.

Way back in eternity, Christ came forth from the bosom of his father. Later, His Father authorized him, to speak the universe into existence. Eph. 3:9.

God created all things by Jesus Christ, Eph. 3:9b. "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. Jn. 1:3

He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not." John 1:10

The creator of heaven and earth transformed himself into an embryo and entered the womb of Mary. Yes, that baby who was born in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago, was both God and man at the same time.

Jesus was far more than a great prophet or philosopher. He was God in the flesh. But amazingly, he came as a little baby. This event was prophesied of by the prophet Micah 5:2.

That out of the little town of Bethlehem a child would be born who would be the ruler in Israel, whose existence was from everlasting, from eternity. Absolutely amazing. Lets look at Micah 5:2:

"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Mic 5:2

Isaiah 7:14 declares: "... the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." This name Immanuel, means God himself was conceived in the womb of Mary. Jesus was both God and man.

In Isaiah 9:6, it declares, Unto us a child is born, but a Son was given.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Not only was this child from everlasting, look at his name's: Mighty God, Prince of peace, everlasting father. This child's name is mighty God, and everlasting father. No, he's not God the father, but he is a father to mankind

Jesus Christ totally identified himself with mankind.

His spirit was eternal, but his body was made of the substance of Mary. Jesus, as a man, felt all the same things that we feel. He was tempted in every way as we are, yet he never sinned. He was the only perfect man who never sinned. Jesus was the spotless lamb of God.

Romans 8:3 tells us, that he condemned sin in the flesh. Though he was tempted in every way, yet he never yielded to sin.

Date of birth

We are not absolutely sure of the date of His birth. Tradition uses December 25th as the date of his birth. But this cannot be absolutely proven. His birth was sometime between late October and December but we do not know the exact date. If he was 33 1/2 years old, he would have you been born in October. He was crucified in April. Making him 33 1/2.

Jesus declared his deity

Jesus made it very clear that he was more than just a man. He stated, "I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me." "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me." John 6:38

And he said, <u>before Abraham was, I am.</u> Joh 8:58* Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM.

Abraham lived 2000 years before. Yet Christ said, before Abraham existed, I am. Jesus is the great I am.

He appeared to Moses 1500 years earlier saying <u>I am that I am</u>. I always was and I always will be. Let's read Exodus 3:14: "And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you."

In Hebrews13:8*, we are told: Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. He is the eternal great I AM.

I have come to do thy will, O father

When Jesus came into this world, and became a man, he <u>constantly</u> said: I have come to do thy will O father, not my will but yours be done. He10:5-7:

"Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. Hebrews 10:5-7, KJV.

With that body that God the father created in the womb of Mary, he was to become a sacrifice for our sins.

He came to condemn sin in the flesh, as it says in Romans 8:3:

"For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:" Romans 8:3, KJV.

He was tempted in all points as we are, but he never sinned Heb. 4:15. He was made with the same physical body, he felt all the temptations we feel, but he never yielded to sin, he condemned sin in the flesh.

Now, Jesus wants to be born in mankind

Today, The Lord Jesus Christ wants to <u>be born in many hearts</u>. New birth. He wants to live inside of us. <u>Christ in you</u>, is the hope of glory. Col.1:27

Paul said to the Galatians: "God called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me:" Galatians 1:15, KJV. Then he said to the Galatians - I am travailing in prayer until Christ is fully formed in you.

Christ literally wants to be born in US, and live in US. He wants us to continually grow unto Full stature. To be like him.

In the natural, it is possible to abort Life that has been conceived in us. At new birth, another person is being formed in us. But people can abort the life of Christ in them.

There are many Christians who turn back, as in John 6:66. They are aborting the life of Christ that is in them.

We want Christ to be fully formed in us. To be mature sons and daughters of God. God wants many special friends.

This is the reason he came down from heaven to Reconcile many.

Jesus is the light of the world.

We must continue to Walk in the light, to be filled with the light.

When we are born again, the light enters us.

We must walk in the light as he is in the light, and the blood of Jesus Christ will continually cleanse us from all sin.

Remember, the path of the righteous get brighter and brighter. "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." Proverbs 4:18.

Things get clearer and clearer as we walk in the light of Jesus. And his Spirit develops more and more of His divine fruit and nature.

So, at Christmas time, as we celebrate the birth of our wonderful Savior and creator. It is nice to give gifts one to another and to decorate, and together our families together, but the main reason is to <u>celebrate</u> the birth of the one who created heaven and earth and who died for our sins. Jesus lunch close friends, a bride without spot or blemish.