

CHRISTMAS 2020

# TIDINGS

CHRIST'S SANCTIFIED HOLY CHURCH



*"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."*

I THESSALONIANS 1:2-4

# Christmas



## Ponderings




I am amazed as I read the scriptures that tell of Christ Jesus's birth.




God our Father, the masterful architect of the universe, spent a great deal of time and effort to bring these miraculous events to fulfillment. It truly is a wonderful story of God's love for mankind in bringing the Son of the Highest, Christ our Saviour, into our world.

God used an amazing star and many appearances of angels to bring His plan to fruition. Only the Lord God and His heavenly host could conceive, design, and orchestrate this plan to save mankind from our sins.

Please consider the following thoughts as you read the Christmas scriptures this holiday season:



- Consider how God worked with forty-two generations of His people to bring Christ into the world in "the fulness of time". God called and mentored Abraham 1,911 years before the birth of Christ.

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- It's pretty amazing that Elisabeth, an old woman "who was called barren", birthed a child that became "the prophet of the Highest", proving that with God nothing shall be impossible.
  - Equally incredible is that Mary, a young virgin, was overshadowed by the power of the Highest, and brought forth God's Son, whom she and Joseph named Jesus as they were both instructed by the angel of the Lord.
  - Joseph was surely troubled when he first learned that his wife-to-be was "with child", and he knew that he wasn't the father. Understandably fighting doubt, confusion, and concern for both of their futures, he was undoubtedly relieved when the angel appeared to him in a dream to inform and reassure him that this child was of the Holy Ghost. With the angelic confirmation, Joseph was energized to do as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, to take Mary as his wife. This started an incredible journey and a series of wonderful events for Joseph and Mary to experience as they accomplished God's will together.
  - And consider the heavenly hosts of angels that appeared to some seriously scared shepherds, proclaiming "Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men". These shepherds were moved to action by the angel's announcement of Christ's birth, and they went hastily to Bethlehem to witness this babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. After seeing Christ the Lord they made known abroad the angel's message of great joy and hope in this newborn Saviour!



- Consider the star that appeared in the east to guide the wise men to Jerusalem with the question “Where is he that is born King of the Jews?” This disturbing question disrupted Herod’s kingdom, nonetheless, the star went before these men until it came and stood over where the young child was. These wise men presented their costly gifts to the Christ child, and then being warned of God in a dream, they departed into their own country another way.
- The angel of the Lord instructed Joseph to flee into Egypt with Mary and Jesus to hide them from an enraged Herod. By murdering all the babies two years old and under in Bethlehem, King Herod attempted to remove any threats to his leadership. However, due to Joseph’s obedience, the baby Jesus was safely growing up in a neighboring country. And later when Herod had died, and the threat was removed, the angel showed Joseph that it was time to return to Israel. Joseph moved Mary and Jesus to the city of Nazareth as it was prophesied, “He shall be called a Nazarene.”



The birth of Christ Jesus brings “good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” We can all be a part of this wonderful salvation through Christ if we choose to be. Merry Christmas to all!

**- Bro. Glenn Copeland**

FROM

# The Comforter

STAR-SHINE

Christmas is love, and the chance to show it;  
Christmas is joy, and the grace to know it;  
Christmas is memory, hope and desire,  
Loving hearts at peace round a glowing fire.

Christmas is star-shine in every man's sky,  
Laughter and wonder in every child's eye;  
Shepherds and angels carolling clear,  
Heaven brought down for a moment each year.



[Click here for more](#)  
[Christmas goodness](#)  
[from "The Comforter"](#)



**Scan or Click for  
Christmas Songs!**



*"O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray,  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today!*

*We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell.*

*O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel."*

- PHILLIP BROOKS, FROM  
"O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM"





# Merry Christmas!

Photography by: [Shelbie Autery Photography](#)

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