

WINTER 2017

TIDINGS

CHRIST'S SANCTIFIED HOLY CHURCH



The Autumn is past and Winter is fast approaching. Isn't it wonderful that as the dreadful cold days of Winter approach we can begin it by celebrating the birth of our Savior; Jesus Christ, the Son of God!

From the creation and the fall of man, God begins giving mankind the hope of the coming of His son through His word. The coming of Christ was prophesied throughout the old Testament by holy men of God. "For the prophesy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." (2 Peter 1:21).

God spoke to Abraham after he had taken his son, Isaac, to be offered up as a sacrifice on the mountain. "And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice;" (Genesis 22:18) thereby promising Abraham the hope of Christ to the world. Through Abraham's family would be the coming of the Lord. Mankind begins to look for when this event should take place. How would this happen? "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call his name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14)

When the angel appeared to Mary, telling her she was chosen of God to be the mother of His only begotten son, Mary asked, "How shall this be?" The angel answered, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." (Luke 1:35)

This was the birth of Jesus Christ, what we call the first coming of the Lord, when "the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." (St John 1:14)

Jesus said to His disciples "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." (St John 14:3). This is the second coming of our Lord. On the day of Pentecost, when they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, the second coming of Christ was available to all mankind.

Looking for the second coming of Christ? "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time, without sin unto salvation." (Hebrews 9:28)

We are all able to experience the promise of the coming of the Lord. When we confess our sins and invite His Holy Spirit into our lives, then he will do to us as the angel told Mary He would do to her, and we will be born again of the Holy Spirit. The promise of the coming of the Lord will be a reality to you!

- Sis. Alice Collins

"And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night."

REVELATION 12:10

UPCOMING

- **12/9 Between, GA:**
Christmas Fellowship
- **12/15 Chesapeake, VA:**
Live Nativity
- **12/16 Leesburg, GA:**
Christmas Program and Fellowship
- **12/16 Raleigh, NC:**
Live Nativity
- **12/17 Charleston, SC:**
Live Nativity
- **12/17 Chesapeake, VA:**
Children's Christmas Program
- **12/17 Raleigh, NC:**
Children's Christmas Program
- **12/18-19 Columbia County, GA:**
Live Nativity
- **12/24 Raleigh, NC:**
Christmas Eve Gathering
- **12/25 West Columbia, SC:**
Christmas Night Service
- **1/27 Jemison, AL:**
12th Annual Chili Cookoff
- **2/9-11 Wilmington, NC:**
Annual Feastmeeting Services



O HOLY CHILD!

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;
Oh, come to us! abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel!

-Phillips Brooks

- from "The Comforter" December 1961



Yes, we fight, but the weapons of our warfare are not carnal. The power and influence of one holy life is yet to be appreciated by the world but it is the despair of the devil and all of his purposes. Certainly, our adversary is out there and is constantly adjusting his tactics to disguise his true motives. But it's still the same devil and God's Word clearly points out to us his erroneous distractions. The real problems in our world are not political at their core and therefore cannot be solved by political means. It is only the preaching of the gospel of Christ that offers any hope to mankind and as believers we cannot afford to be distracted into believing that anything else will be effective. The greatest threat to our society in the United States, is not corruption in the government, but corruption in the church. The church is God's messenger on earth to proclaim his Word and the moral authority of scripture. The church is God's weapon to push against the flood tides of wickedness and liberate souls from the tyranny of the devil. The church is God's instrument to introduce people to Christ, who only can repair the brokenness left by the fall. Now, the Lord knoweth them that are his but that dying world outside can only see the organizations of churches that are set in front of them. This is why it is vitally important that the members of those organizations to actually experience what they preach. Then, with God's anointing, preach saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Bro. Jeff Price

"From that time Jesus began to preach saying, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." - Matthew 4:17

These words of Christ changed the human spiritual experience forever. For centuries before, heaven either referred to the physical outer space and skies above the earth (first heaven) or it described God's eternal habitation entirely in the spiritual realm (third heaven). Jesus Christ introduced to mankind for the first time the kingdom of heaven as an entity that brought the holiness of that spiritual realm into reach of mortals in the flesh. Let's call this the second heaven, which three are ranked according to their spiritual order from least to greatest, not chronologically in time.

These words of Christ can also help us sort through the overwhelming amount of information that our brains are flooded with on a daily basis regarding the world around us. The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

It's important for believers to guard against notions that the kingdom of heaven somehow takes on a manifestation of an earthly nation, even if the Lord uses one for his purposes. When people become convinced that their state is God's chosen and another state is evil, then they will naturally take up arms to fight against that evil, which Christ expressly condemns. This is the end result of blending political warfare with spiritual warfare, and it plays right into the devil's hands. The two may parallel and look on the surface to be the same, but we need to see with spiritual eyes that the most threatening adversary is not agents of a foreign government or an opposing political party but it's the devil, who deceiveth the whole world. Governments come and go with the tides of history, yet the kingdom of heaven has remained constant throughout, giving hope to people living in a variety of conditions, and it is this kingdom that we must look to for truth and clarity in an age when it is so scarce.

	PROPHECY	FULFILLMENT
Genealogy of Christ	Genesis 3:15 Eve Genesis 12:3 Abraham Genesis 17:19 Isaac Genesis 35:10-12 Jacob	Genesis 49:8-10 Judah Isaiah 11:1,10 Jesse Psalm 89:3-4 David
Virgin Birth	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:1-6
Born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:2	Luke 1:26-28 Matthew 1:23
The Star	Numbers 24:17	Luke 2:4-7
Kings Worship	Isaiah 60:1-3,6	Matthew 2:9-10
In Egypt	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:1-2,11
Light of the World	Isaiah 49:6	Matthew 2:13-14,19-23 Luke 2:32 John 1:4

- selected passages of the writings of the prophets that foretold the birth of Christ centuries before their fulfillment.

Christmas carols are one of the best things about the Christmas season. This year as you listen to these songs, let them bring to remembrance what God has done and can do in our lives!



Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

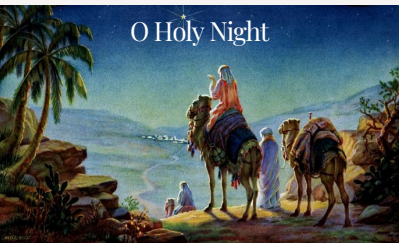
And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.



No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found

Romans 5:17

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.



O Holy Night
The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
'Til He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope a weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

1 Peter 1:3

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,



O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of Hell Thy people save
And give them victory o'er the grave
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, o Israel

Romans 8:1-2

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

PARTING THOUGHT:

The best and truest gift at Christmastime is God's gift of his son, Jesus, to us. Jesus came to this earth as Mighty God and fragile baby, lived a sinless life, and chose to be the sacrifice for us. Why? Why would the son of the Creator choose to do this? It was because of his love for us and to fulfill the plan of salvation; to redeem all people, to reconcile us back to God, and to dwell in us. Just as Jesus' parents knocked at the door of the innkeeper, Jesus knocks at our heart's door. Do you hear Him knocking? Will you answer? Will you let Him in? I hope and pray that you will, so that you can experience a Christmas unlike any other; Christ in you, the hope of glory. Merry Christmas! - Bro. Jay Williams

Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.

Matthew 1:23

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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.

- LUKE 2:10,11