

The Supreme Birth at Christmas

Jesus was Born of a Woman **Luke 2:11-12** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

Jesus was God Incarnate **John 1:1,14** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ... The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

Seven Other Important Christmas Beginnings

The greatest gift of all time is Jesus the Christ. The birth of Jesus represented not only the beginning of His incarnation, but also the inception of God's final stage of His plan to redeem mankind, including aspects of Jesus' ministry that were not as readily available to OT saints. Here are seven gifts Jesus brought with Him for all those who sincerely choose to follow Him.

1. The LORD Jesus brought the Revelation of tangible Hope

Isaiah 40:31 ...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Hebrews 6:16-20 Men swear by someone greater than themselves, and the oath confirms what is said and puts an end to all argument. Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath. God did this so, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where Jesus, who went before us, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

1 Peter 1:3-5 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

2. He provided the Unique and Accessible way to be Reconciled with God

Matthew 27:50-51 When Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.

Colossians 1:21-22 Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation.

3. Jesus' Sacrifice furnished the Priceless, Unmerited Gift of Grace

Romans 1:5 Through [Jesus] and for his name's sake, we received grace...

Romans 3:21-25 But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.

John 1:15-17 John testifies concerning [Jesus], saying, "He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me." From the fullness of his grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

4. He supplied the Privilege of being in the Eternal Family of God

Ephesians 1:5 In love he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will...

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior.

Mark 3:35 [Jesus said:] "Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

5. Jesus' Salvation produced *Peace with God* and offers the *Peace of God*

Romans 5:1-2 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand.

Philippians 4:4-7 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Jesus also clarified the type of Earthly Peace He Promised to Believers

Personal: **John 14:27** [Jesus said:] "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

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Not interpersonal: **Matthew 10:34-35** "Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn 'a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law – a man's enemies will be the members of his own household.'" Micah 7:6 "

6. The Life of Jesus exemplified the Biblical concept of Humility

Proverbs 22:4 Humility and the fear of the LORD bring wealth and honor and life.

James 4:7-10 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn & wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

Philippians 2:6-8 [Jesus], being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. He humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death on a cross!

7. Jesus Christ Perfectly Modeled a Godly Life

Philippians 2:5 Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...

Matthew 4:1-2,8-11 Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days & forty nights, he was hungry. ... Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you, if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" Deuteronomy 6:13 "

Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Colossians 1:9-14 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.