BLESSED HOPE



BIBLE CHURCH

Blessed Hope Bible Church

www.bhbcstl.org

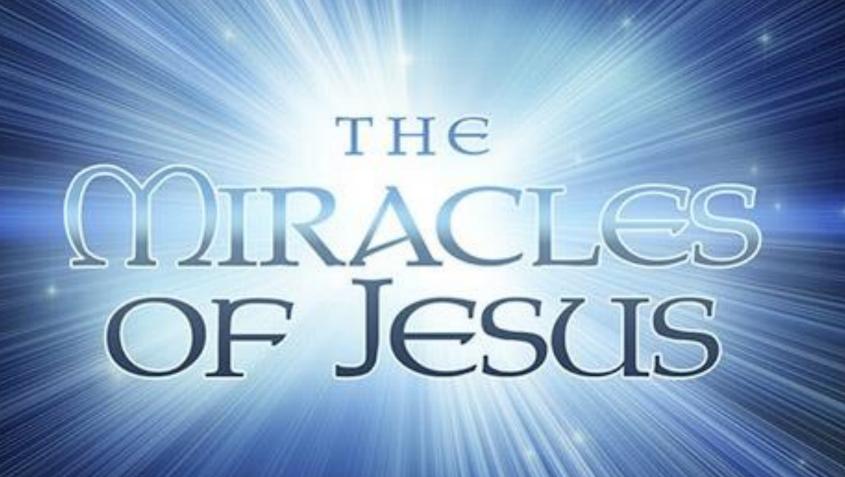




Learning ... Loving ... Leaning ... Living ... Leading ...

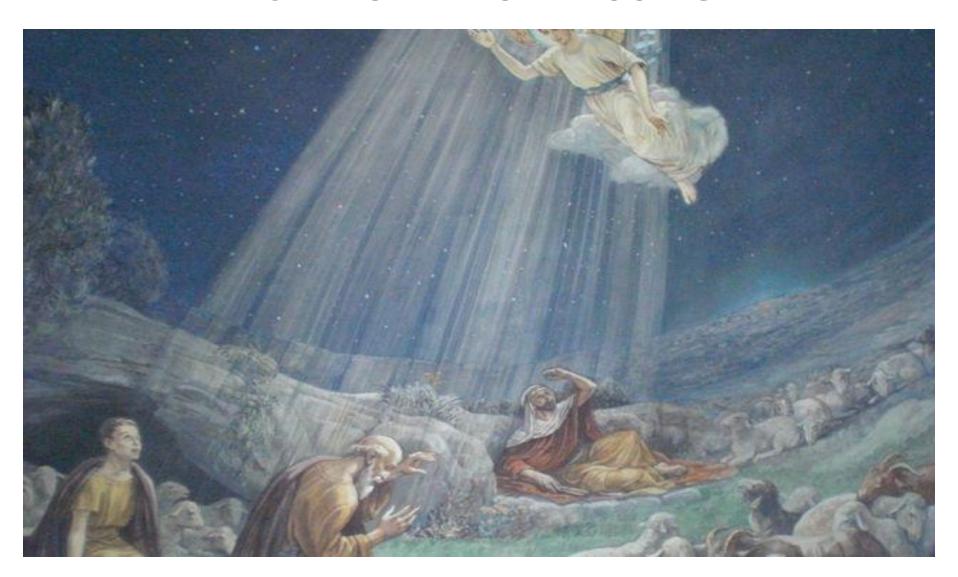
By the Word of God





THE MIRACLE ** OF CHRISTMAS

GOOD NEWS FOR BAD TIMES: A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE



INTRODUCTION: WHAT MAKES CHRISTMAS SO SPECIAL?

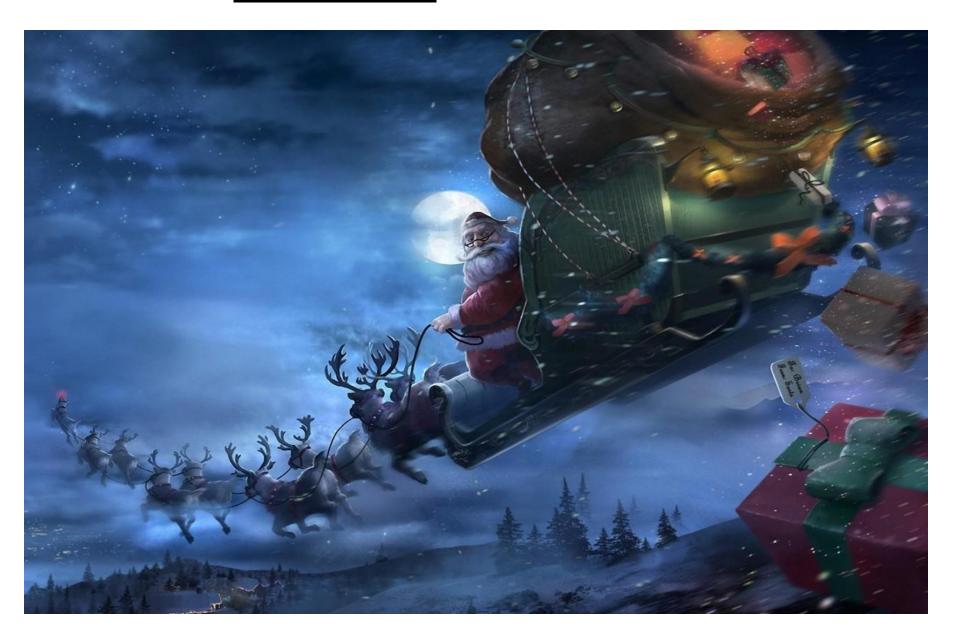
• It is NOT the <u>Date</u> on which Christmas is celebrated!



• It is NOT the **Name** "Christmas!"



• It is NOT **Santa Claus**!



• It is NOT the **Christmas Tree**!



It is NOT the many Christmas Traditions!

– MISTLETOE ---YULE LOGS

– CHRISTMAS CARDS ---CHRISTMAS GIFTS

– CANDY CANES ---GINGER BREAD

– CAROLLING ---CHRISTMAS CAROLS

— HOLLY BERRIES ---WREATHS

— CHRISTMAS BELLS ---CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS ---FRUIT CAKE

The CHRISTMAS STAR
 ---CHRISTMAS DINNER

— THE NATIVITY SCENE ---THE WISE MEN

CHRISTMAS PAGEANTS ---CHRISTMAS MOVIES

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

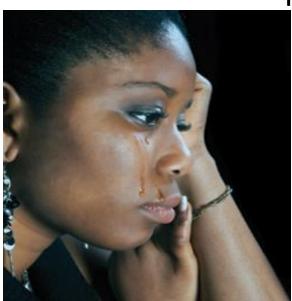
• It is NOT Christmas **Dinner** with the Family!



- For many For many Christmas is NOT a time of joy and happiness...
 - Because of tragedy in their family
 - Because of a sickness or disability
 - Because of financial hardship

Because of personal anger, bitterness, frustration,

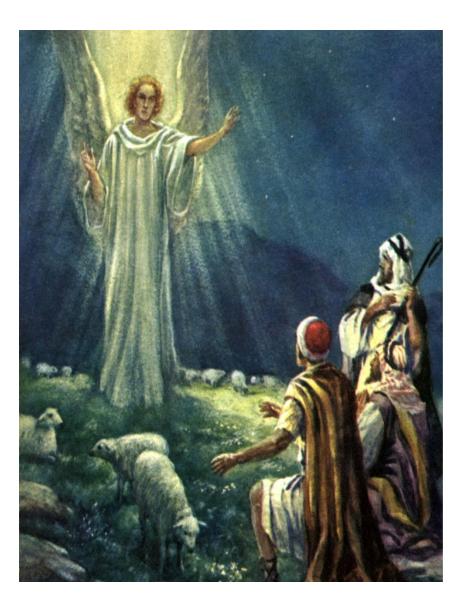
and emotional despair.





- Lesson: Christmas is NOT about traditionalism, commercialism, or materialism, it is about NEWS, GOOD NEWS, that has come to us from God.
- From the angelic announcement to the shepherds in Luke 2:10-14, we can observe three key facts that make the news of Christmas GOOD NEWS

FACT #1: A BIRTH WAS ANNOUNCED

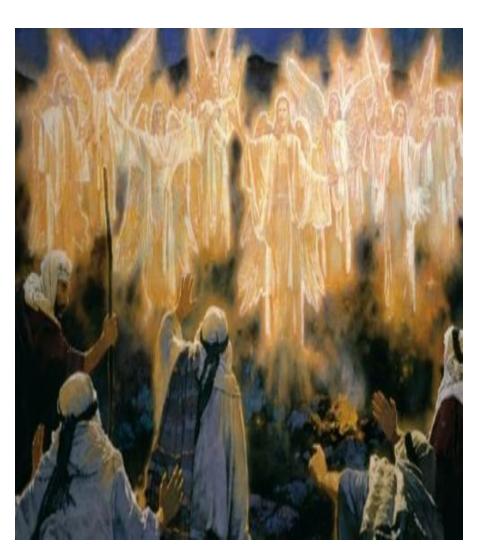


- The Birth was in the City of David.
- The Birth was that of a Savior.
- The Birth was that of Christ the Lord.
- The Birth was marked by an Uncommon Sign.



- He was a real person
- He was born in a real place
- He was born on a real day
- He came as a real sacrifice
- He provides a real salvation
- He is the subject of a real message
- He gives real hope

FACT #2: THIS BIRTH BRINGS WITH IT AN AFFIRMATION



- This Birth was marked by Praise to God
- This Birth is marked by the **Promise** of Peace
- Note: Men of goodwill are those who trust in the Lord because of this birth—they will have peace with God, now and forever.
- Point: This Birth is an affirmation of peace to the world.

FACT #3: THIS BIRTH DEMANDS A PERSONAL RESPONSIVE ACTION



- We can doubt it.
- We can ignore it.
- We can debate it.
- We can reject it.
- We can accept it

RECEIVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOUR TODAY!!



- 1. Acknowledge that the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, <u>died</u> on the cross for your sin, and that He <u>arose</u> again from the dead on the third day.
- 2. Admit that you are a sinner, guilty of sin and responsible and accountable to a holy God for your sin, and that you are under His just condemnation and eternal punishment for your sin.
- **3. Accept** the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour by **receiving** His provision of salvation through your faith in Him alone.