

“Celebrating Christmas To The Glory Of God” (Part 2) —
Why is Christmas Joyful?
Psalm 51:1-17

“The birth of Jesus Christ is the most important and anticipated event in all of human history. Jesus is the only Person who has had an impact on every human being who has ever walked the planet. Jesus is the reason that every other event in human history has eternal significance. We cannot succeed at overemphasizing the importance of Jesus Christ.”

“She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will SAVE His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit REJOICES in God my SAVIOR” (Luke 1:46-47). “And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you GOOD NEWS of GREAT JOY that will be for all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a SAVIOR, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11). “Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and REJOICE with JOY that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the SALVATION of your souls” (1 Peter 1:8-9).

“So often our JOY is centered on the justification part of our SALVATION and not also centered on the sanctification part of our SALVATION. There is as much joy available in our positional righteousness as there is in our practical righteousness. So we are in a fight for JOY in God instead of JOY in this world. We do this by fighting our sin and being obedient to God, by the power of God.”

● Defining Terms:

- *Mercy*: Withholding the punishment, namely, the wrath of God, that is justly deserved for my sins by placing it on Christ; Propitiation.
- *Steadfast Love*: God’s unfailing kindness, goodness, and mercy and is directly related to His faithfulness to His Word. *“The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end.” (Lamentations 3:22)*
- *Blot out*: To abolish, destroy, erase, or wipe away any record of my sins. *“God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This He set aside, nailing it to the cross.” (Colossians 2:13b-14)*
- *Sin*: Preferring something over God; missing the mark of glorifying God at all times in all ways, which God is worthy of.
- *Transgressions*: Intentionally, willfully, joyfully, satisfyingly disobeying God. We never sin out of obligation — never.
- *Iniquities*: To sin and to continue on without repentance. A dismissal of God’s grace, mercy, and love extended to us, through Christ, and instead choosing the fleeting pleasures of sin over the eternal pleasures of God. *“God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day.” (Psalm 7:11)*

Worship: Grace Alone — The Modern Post

God Is For Us — City Alight

Come Adore The Humble King — Matt Boswell

Closing Song: How Deep — Kings Kaleidoscope

Service Times: Sundays: Prayer 4:30/Church 5:30; Tuesdays: (In-Home) Bible Study: Women 6:30/Men 6:30 & 7; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20/Church 7

Announcements:

★**CHRISTMAS SERVICES:** We will be having our normal midweek Thursday worship service THIS Thursday, December 22nd. We will NOT be having a Christmas Eve Service. We WILL BE having our normal worship service NEXT Sunday, Christmas Day at 5:30pm. There will be NO Children's Ministry offered during the worship service on Christmas Day! Christmas is always a great opportunity to invite friends and family to come to church with you!

★**FELLOWSHIP DINNER:** We are having a Fellowship Dinner TONIGHT immediately following the worship service. EVERYONE is invited to stay to enjoy the dinner and fellowship with us!

★**ANNUAL NEW YEARS EVE PARTY:** We will be having our annual New Year's Eve Party on Saturday, December 31st, at Andy Wesley's house (1062 National Drive SE; Hebron). The festivities will start at 6pm and last until midnight! Please plan on joining us for a fun night of games and food and fellowship! There is a sign-up list on the back table, please sign-up to bring your favorite appetizer, snack, finger food, or dessert.