

Date: December 8, 2024
Series: Christmas 2024: The Wonder of Christmas
Title: Presence: The Gift of Christmas
Text: Matthew 1:1-25

The Wonder of Christmas

PRESENCE: THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS

Opening Line

I'll Be Home for Christmas
The people you want to be with
The people who are no longer here

There is something about proximity and togetherness

Transition

HIS PRESENCE IS WITH YOU Matt 1:1-17

Whether you are well-behaved and blessed

- The world would have you believe that there is no sin, and none have fallen short of anything.
- All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
- We see individuals on this list who, though definitely guilty of sinning, on the whole have sought to live a life pleasing to the Lord.
 - Abraham v 1-2
 - David v 6-7
 - Solomon v 6-7
 - Hezekiah – v 9-10
 - Josiah – 10-11

Whether you were ill-behaved or broken

Matt 1:1

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Tamar (v 3)

Rahab (v 5)

Ruth (v 5)

Bathsheba (v 6)

3 - *and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar*

5 - *and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab*

5 - *and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth*

The Answer Would Come In His Presence To Save

Matthew 1:16, 20-23

¹⁶ - *and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ.*

²⁰ *“...that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, “God with us”).*

Heb. 13:5-6

⁵ *he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” ⁶ So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?”*

HIS PRESENCE IS FOR ALL WHO WOULD CALL ON HIM

Broken Yet Restored

Gen 3:15

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

Rev. 20:10

... and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Isaiah 53:10-11

¹⁰ *Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall*

prosper in his hand. ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

Available to all who call

Matt 1:21

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Psalm 124:8

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Acts 2:21

And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

HIS PRESENCE IS FOR ALL TIME

From the Beginning to the End

Rev. 1:8

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Rev. 22:13

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

Matthew 28:20

“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

From Divine to Death

Phil 2:5-8

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

From the Grave to Glory

Phil 2:9-11

⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

You are not too far gone to be blessed with the Presence of God.

Christ came to save sinners and abide with His people.

Call on the name of the Lord.

Invite His Presence to be with you.