



December 2017

Christmas— Beyond Tinsel & Glitter

The other evening Kathy and I were looking at our cache of unused Christmas cards that we have accumulated over the years. One caught Kathy's eye and together we feasted on its message. We want to share that feast with you.

The **Word**
 became flesh...
 Master became servant...
Creator became a man...
 Perfection became sin
 so that
 old would be **new**...
 death would be **life**...
 slave would be heir...
 Sorrow would be
joy...

(DAYSPRING CARDS)

Do you see the contrast? Contrast is a literary device that can reveal the essence and power of something. Certainly, the essence of the Christmas story is the INCARNATION and the power of the INCARNATION is seen in changed lives.

Speaking of the incarnation, stepping back from that long ago moment in Bethlehem gives us view to an even greater contrast; a contrast that spans past and future, a contrast between His first and second coming.

The first time Jesus came to earth...

The next time He will come...

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|---|---|
| He came as a servant. | as the sovereign King. |
| He came as one obeying. | as one commanding. |
| He came alone to live in an obscure town. | with His holy angels to rule the earth. |
| He came in humility. | in glorious majesty and splendor. |
| He came to seek and save the lost. | to judge and sentence the lost. |
| He came as the sower. | as the reaper. |
| He came in grace. | He will come in wrath. |

MacArthur (modified)

Prayer Petitions

It's easy sometimes to look at missions through rose colored glasses. For baby boomers, it would be like equating missions to Roy Rogers and Dale Evans riding along singing "Happy Trails to You".

However, the reality of missions is sometimes the opposite. The Apostle Paul spoke of this in the last half of II Corinthians 11. After reciting a litany of hardships, he adds, "And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches." Please pray for the following:

1. Strength and stamina to finish strong.
2. Additional laborers for the harvest to fill key World Reach positions.
3. Resources to sustain and grow vital ministries.
4. That God's reputation would be magnified in and through us.

Paul &
 Kathy

We are so grateful for your partnership!

WORLD REACH

News from the Whitmores

"For what we preach is not ourselves but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."

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