

If There Were No Christmas
John 14:1-13

I. INTRODUCTION-

- a. The first Christmas was a pivotal point in the history of the world...Christmas is such an important part of God's plan...but I think that sometime even believers fail to appreciate just how important Christmas is.
- b. What if there were no Christmas?... what if you picked up a hymnal to sing some Christmas carols and there were none...what if you picked up a Bible to read the Christmas story...but it was not there?

II. WITHOUT CHRISTMAS THERE WOULD BE NO NEW TESTAMENT-

- a. Without Christmas there would be no New Testament...there would be no story of the angel's visit to Mary...or the angel's announcement to the shepherds ... no record of the Wise Men coming to Bethlehem to give gifts to the new born king.
- b. Without Christmas there would be no Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John...no Sermon on the Mount...no story of Jesus walking on the water...no story of Jesus healing the sick or raising the dead.
- c. Without Christmas we would not be able to turn to Romans 8:28...which tells us that ...*"All things work together for good to those who love God."*
- d. Without Christmas there would be no John 14...which tells us that our hearts should not be troubled...for in Heaven...in the Father's house...there are many rooms ... that Christ has prepared for His people.
- e. Without Christmas instead of 66 books...the Bible would only contain 39...taking the New Testament out of the Bible would be like taking the glitter out of diamonds ... the stars out of the sky...or numbers out of mathematics.
- f. If there were no Christmas...if Christ had not come...there would be no New Testament.

III. WITHOUT CHRISTMAS GOD WOULD BE UNAPPROACHABLE-

- a. *John 14:6 (NIV) "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*
- b. The only way that a person can know in a personal way...and have a personal relationship with Him...is through the Lord Jesus Christ.

- c. Had Jesus not come into the world...had He not been born of a virgin...had He not walk on this earth...had He not died on the cross as our sinless substitute...had Christmas not happened...then we could never approach our Creator...we could never know Him...the only true God in...a personal way.
- d. *John 14:9 (NIV)* “...(Jesus said) *Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father...*”
- e. Jesus came into the world to reveal God to us...and to make a way for sinful human beings to be forgiven of their sin...to know God... and be accepted by Him.
- f. Without Christmas...God would be unknowable and unapproachable...we could have never known of His great love for us...and His concern for us.

IV. WITHOUT CHRISTMAS THERE WOULD BE NO GOSPEL-

- a. From the very beginning Christmas has been about the “good news”...when the angels announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds they said...*Luke 2:10* “*Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.*”
- b. Without Christmas there would be no gospel...there would be no good news to preach...the Old Testament looked forward to the coming of a Messiah...it promised that one day a Messiah...a Deliverer would come...who would save those who believe in Him from their sins.
- c. Without Christmas that promise would be unfulfilled...without Christmas there would be no Messiah...there would be no Deliverer...there would be no good news ...no gospel to tell.
- d. But hallelujah!...Christmas did happen...the Messiah did come...a Savior for all people has come...and by His perfect life...His sacrificial death...and His glorious resurrection...He has made a way for sinners to be saved and reconciled to God.
- e. Because of Christmas we have a gospel to preach...we have good news to tell ...*Luke 2:11 (NIV)* “*Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.*”

V. WITHOUT CHRISTMAS PRAYER WOULD BE UNPROFITABLE-

- a. *John 14:13-14 (NIV)* “*And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.*”
- b. Over and over...Jesus taught His disciples that He came to earth so that the way

of prayer could be open...so that we could come to the throne of grace and approach the Father in His name...and bring our requests to Him...and fellowship with Him.

- c. The death of Jesus on the cross opened the way to heaven...and now in the name of Jesus those who believe in Him have access to God...through Jesus the smallest person up to the oldest can come to God at any time...in any place...in any circumstance ...without the aid of any priest or pastor...and be heard.
- d. If it were not for Christmas...our prayers would be unprofitable.

VI. WITHOUT CHRISTMAS HEAVEN WOULD BE UNATTAINABLE-

- a. Without Christmas Heaven would be unattainable...many think they attain Heaven on their own...by their own efforts and good works.
- b. But that is impossible because to go to Heaven on your own...you would not have to be just "good enough"...you would have to be perfect...which none of us are.
- c. In order for us to go to Heaven...we must receive a perfection...a righteousness which is not our own.
- d. When we repent of our sins and give our life to Christ...not only does He cover our sins with His blood which He shed on Calvary...and He also covers us with His sinless and perfect life.
- e. So that when God looks at us...He sees us through the redemption and perfection of Christ which covers our life...and we are accepted by God.
- f. Without Christmas Heaven would be unattainable...*John 14:6 (NIV) "Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." ... Acts 4:12 (NIV) "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."*

VII. CONCLUSION-

- a. WITHOUT CHRISTMAS THERE WOULD BE NO NEW TESTAMENT...GOD WOULD BE UNAPPROACHABLE...THERE WOULD BE NO GOSPEL... PRAYER WOULD BE UNPROFITABLE...HEAVEN WOULD BE UNATTAINABLE
- b. The Bible says the moment a person receives Jesus as their Lord and Savior... they are forgiven...saved from the penalty of their sin...and given eternal life... *John 5:11-12 (NIV) "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life."*

c. Have you received the Son?