

**CHRISTMAS 2019
DECEMBER 22, 2019**

INTRODUCTION:

Most people view Christmas as a holiday defined by trees, lights, cards, parties, food, snow, Hallmark's 25 days of Christmas movies, and Bing Crosby singing White Christmas. However, this is not what Christmas is all about. Christmas celebrates one of the three most important events ever to occur in human history: the incarnation, the crucifixion and the resurrection of the Son of God.

THE MOST AMAZING WORLD FIGURE – LUKE 2:7-20

- He was born in Bethlehem where lambs were bred for sacrificial offerings.
- His birth was announced and celebrated by an angelic host.
- Before He was three His murder was attempted.
- Foreign Kings brought Him gifts that were given to honor a king or deity in the ancient world. Gold represents His Kingship on earth, frankincense is a symbol of deity and myrrh is a symbol of His death.
- At age 12, He marveled religious leaders with His wisdom.
- At age 30, when baptized, the Father introduced Him as His Son.
- After 2000 years, He's the most popular man to ever have lived.

WHY DID HE COME? IF HE CAME:

- To teach morals – then His life was about ethics.
- Fix the environment – then His life was about ecology.
- Model manners and nice living – His life was about Martha Stewart living.
- Tinsel, garland and gifts – His life was about playing Santa.

JESUS CAME TO:

- Save sinners – **1 TIMOTHY 1:15 (NLT)**
- Give His life – **MATTHEW 20:28**
- Find and restore the lost – **LUKE 19:10 (MSG)**
 1. Zacchaeus was an evil tax collector.
 2. Paul was a Christian hater and murderer.

THE LOST DESCRIBED – ROMANS 5:6-11

Paul describes the lost as being weak, ungodly, sinners and enemies. God's plan in dealing with the lost involves four things: getting the lost saved, the saved established in the faith, the established trained, and the trained sent out into the world.

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- The moment: **LUKE 1:38, HEBREWS 10:5**
- The motive: **JOHN 3:16-17**
- The mission: **MATTHEW 1:21-23**
- The memories: **LUKE 16:22-25** – Shepherds will remember that Holy Night. Believers will remember their salvation experience. This rich man will remember: the sermons he neglected to act upon. The Spirit he disrespected when He brought conviction to him. The Savior he rejected. **ISAIAH 53:3**

CONCLUSION:

The traditions of Christmas are heartwarming and wonderful. However, Jesus wasn't born to create heartwarming traditions. He was born to deal with sin, and get the lost saved, established, trained and sent out. **1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-10**