

Elementary Children's Church

Lesson 12

Christmas message

1. Why do we celebrate Christmas? It was the greatest gift that will ever be given. God gave His only begotten Son Jesus. And He gave him not just as a baby, not just to live the perfect sinless life for us, not to just be crucified and die upon that cross, but to be made sin for us who knew no sin. As Simeon said, "mine eyes have seen thy salvation." **Luke 2:30.**

2. This was the birth that prophets of old foretold: **Isaiah 7:14** "Therefore the Lord himself shall **give you a sign**; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." **Isaiah 9:6** "For **unto us a child is born, unto us a son is** given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." God placed that seed of life in Mary, and Jesus was born to us, the King of Kings and Lord of Lord's; the I AM. Jesus was born as very God but at the same time a man. Isn't it amazing to think that he would be born in obscurity (nobody really knowing). Not even a place to lay His head, and was born in a stable. Only God would require such a lowly birth for the One in whom all fullness dwells.

3. Maybe the sweetest and greatest reminder to us this Christmas day was that God foretold of His Son's birth thousands of years before he came. And yet even though this was told throughout the Old Testament there were only a handful looking for the birth of Jesus: just a few shepherds and some wise-men. May we take this to heart today that God in his Word has told us that this same Jesus would come again in like manner as He ascended shortly after His death: **Acts 1:11** "Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in **like manner** as ye have seen him go into heaven." That he would appear again to them that are looking and loving his appearing: **Hebrews 9:28** "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and **unto them** that look for him **shall he appear** the second time without sin **unto** salvation." God help us to not be so caught up in things of this present time as so many were when Jesus came to earth the first time. Because this next time He is coming to capture away those similar type Saints. **I Thessalonians 5:6**: "Therefore let us not sleep, as [do] others; but let us watch and be sober." (the ones wanting to be at home with Jesus; the ones loving His appearing.)