



Covenant Life Church

Christmas Newsletter

Announcements

Building Update

We are very thankful to announce that the county has completed their reviews of our church application to operate. We have reviewed all of the reviewer comments and are working to complete the requested corrections to meet the county code to operate as a church. Please continue to pray for us as we endeavor to meet all requirements to operate, and with the Lord's grace, open the church in 2021.

In preparation for the church opening, we want to give you an opportunity to virtually see the church. In January 2021, we will post pictures of the church on our website, www.covenant-life-church.org. We thank you for your faithful prayers and donations that are making this church opening possible.

We also greatly appreciate your financial support to the ministry. Donations to the church can be made through our website at: www.covenant-life-church.org or through the mail at: Covenant Life Church, PO Box 1262, Springfield, VA 22151

Please don't forget to "like" us on **Facebook** and we encourage you to watch our services on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/covenantlife4

December/January Schedule

- A reminder that we will have a Christmas break from December 21st through January 3rd. During this time, we will only have our Sunday 2:30 pm EST Facebook service.
- All services will resume on January 4th.
- Please check the website for further calendar events.
- January Events:
 - 9th: 24-hour prayer
 - 10th: Word of the Lord
 - 15th: off for MLK holiday
 - 18th: off for MLK holiday

Word of the Lord

- We usually have an annual “Word of the Lord” service in January. The Word of the Lord is the instruction that the Lord gives to us telling us the overall direction for the church and membership for the new year.
- The Word of the Lord may contain the following elements:
 - Revelation regarding the areas that the Holy Spirit is focusing on in our lives and themes for the year that will be especially anointed
 - Direction and instruction for church activities
 - Instruction for church members on areas of prayer etc., to focus on
 - Rhema’s that will be important for the year
 - Weapons of warfare and other areas that will be especially anointed for that year

From the Desk of Apostles Jeff & Dr. Linda Herbert

We may have all asked ourselves at some time in our life, “What is the meaning of Christmas?” The answer lies in the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin Mary. Because the Father God loved us, He sent His only begotten Son – Jesus Christ – into the world to save us from eternal damnation.

Christmas is more than parties, gifts, decorations, or family gatherings. Christmas is God’s good news greeting of peace to a world of sinners. “For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Is 9:6, NKJV). “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11, NKJV).

There are many in the world today who do not understand the true meaning of Christmas and even in Biblical times we find the Apostle Paul explaining the significance of Christ. In Galatians 4:4-7, the Apostle Paul explained to the Galatians the significance of Christ birth. The Bible states, “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” ⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.” (Gal 4:4-7, NKJV)

In these verses we see two very important things about Jesus Christ and His coming to earth. First, we see His divine origin and second, we see the redemption of mankind. In Galatians 4:4, the Word tells us about the divine origin of Christ. Before the birth of Christ in the manger, or even before the conception of Christ in the womb of the Virgin Mary, Christ always existed. Before creation, Jesus always was and He came out of eternity to save us from sin. He did not begin, but in fact ‘always was.’ John 1:1 states, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” Jesus existed with God the Father and always was – He has no beginning and no end. Then, one day at the precise time, God the Father sent Him forth to be born of the Virgin Mary. It was God’s plan even before there was a world.

So, we understand that Jesus Christ was God incarnate – He is the Son of God who took on a fleshly, bodily form ([John 1:14](#)). But, although Jesus became fully human ([Hebrews 2:17](#)), He also retained His status as God ([John 1:1, 14](#)). The Bible teaches that Jesus is both man and God simultaneously, having two distinct natures, divine and human. “Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me” ([John 14:11](#)). Thus, we see the divine origin of Jesus who always was with the Father God and then became the Son of Man.

Christmas is also about the advent of Jesus, who humbled Himself, and came to earth so that we could be redeemed and adopted as sons. Because of his great love for mankind, Jesus made a conscious choice to be sent to save mankind. Philippians 2: 5-8, “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” And

Galatians 3:13 states, Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed *is* everyone who hangs on a tree"). First John 3:1 states, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God (KJV). Consequently, Christ death on the cross redeemed us from eternal damnation so we could receive the adoption of sons.

So, Christmas is much more than the worldly activities that we see all around us. It is much more than parties and gifts. Christmas is about Jesus and His sacrifice for us on the Cross. Christmas is about God's love for mankind in paying the price for our sin and redeeming us from eternal damnation. Our all-powerful God interceded for us and made it possible for us to have peace and be reconciled to Him. And not only that, but He also gave us everything that pertains to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).

Jesus is the reason for the season. The angel appeared to the shepherds on that first Christmas and declared, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men (Luke 2:14, KJV). Thus, Christmas is God's gift of love to us in reconciling us to Him through the blood of Jesus. Despite the circumstances in our life today, let's rejoice and be thankful for the great sacrifice that our Lord Jesus Christ made to redeem us!

Merry Christmas from all of us at Covenant Life Church!