

# The Baptist Message

*“We preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord”*

## DO YOU KNOW JESUS?

*“Thou shalt call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins.” Matt. 1:21*

FOR YOUR SAKE, THE LORD JESUS left the glory of Heaven and His place of equality with the Heavenly Father. He humbled Himself in order to be “found in fashion as a man.” Coming to this earth, he took the role of a servant, obedient to the purpose of God, so that he might become the Savior of men – including you. Do you want to know Him? While Christ was here upon earth, the record tells us, He went about doing good. He healed the sick, even raised the dead. He fed the poor and delivered sin-sick men from the power of the devil. He taught – and never man spoke as He spoke. Why, the people “hung upon Him, listening!” For He told about the life to come and promised that those who believed on Him should have eternal life. Do you want that?

*“This is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.” John 17:3*

The Lord Jesus was too good for this world and God knew it. He knew that wicked men would kill Him, and men not quite so evil would allow it to be done. But God had a purpose in permitting His Son to die. By that death, the penalty for your sins and mine would be paid.

So Christ laid down His life and died on the cross, that by death He might destroy him who has the power of death, that is the devil. He died that He might deliver those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage, including you. Wouldn't you like to be delivered? Delivered from fear and sin and bondage of evil habits?

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## WELCOME TO

**RICHMOND ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
5897 Old Richmond Rd.  
Lexington, KY 40515

J. D. Gumm, Pastor (859) 285 – 6420

## SERVICES

Sunday School .....10:00 A. M.  
Sunday Morning Worship .....11:00 A. M.  
Sunday Evening Worship .....2:00 P. M.  
Wednesday Service .....7:00 P. M.

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*“God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16*

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# WONDERFUL!

*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. Isa. 9:6*

## WONDERFUL in Humility

That He, who was the Son of God, would be willing to become the son of man that you and I can, by faith, become sons of God – *is Wonderful!* He who was in the bosom of the Father was willing to be born into the bosom of a Jewish peasant girl that you and I might be born into the family of God.

When Moses returned after forty days and nights in Sinai, his face so reflected God's glory that he veiled it to prevent Israel's looking upon him, for he had been with God. BUT, when God took upon Himself a body and came down and dwelt with man, Isaiah tells us that "his visage was so marred more than any man" (Isa. 52:14). Such humiliation is *Wonderful!*

## WONDERFUL in His Love

He who was accustomed to the hallelujahs of angels was willing to exchange all that for the cries of an angry multitude of both Jews and Gentiles who cried "Crucify him." Yes, God saw that we had altogether become filthy; that there was not one that did good. Psalm 14:2. "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:6). In His matchless love, God became our Lamb whose blood alone can take away our sins. This is *Wonderful!*

## WONDERFUL Conqueror

He is the only One that death ever failed to hold, for He was eternal. Micah said, "He was from everlasting to everlasting." He is the only One that sin ever failed to stain – "who did no sin." Jeremiah says, "this is the name whereby he shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS" (Jer. 23:6). Because He was victorious over death, hell, sin, and the grave, you and I can also be victorious by faith in God's Messiah, Jeshua. This is *Wonderful!*

## WONDERFUL to Save

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities

have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear" (Isa. 59:1,2). He is anxious to save you from all your sins and to clothe you "with the garments of salvation" (Isa. 61:10). There is atonement for you in His precious blood. Lev. 17:11.

## WONDERFUL to Sanctify

Not only can He save and pardon all our transgressions, but he can cleanse us from all iniquity. "I the Lord search the heart." "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (Isa. 1:18). Will you cry with Jeremiah, "Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise"?

--I. Hanley

## BORN IN DAVID'S CITY

In all the annals of earth, there is nothing else to be compared with the story of the birth of Christ. It is ever new. What a privilege it is to pause in the stress of modern life and go back in spirit to stand by that manger bed and gaze again upon the lovely Babe . . . God manifest in flesh.

Luke, the beloved physician, tells us in his first chapter that it was by the direct creative power of God, working through the Holy Spirit, that the blessed Virgin Mary became the mother of our Lord. His Incarnation was the first step in the fulfillment of the program of redemption. Bethlehem was the prelude to Calvary.

The Christmas story is not a Hebrew myth. It is not Christian folklore. It is a blessed and glorious fact. God has actually come down to earth and has become incarnate in the person of the Man, Christ Jesus. In Bethlehem's Babe we see deity and humanity united, never more to be separated. But Incarnation alone would not save one poor sinner. The Son of God became man in order that He might give His life a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). But apart from Calvary, Bethlehem would have no lasting significance. The Saviour born in David's city had to die in order to redeem us to God.

It is an interesting fact that although Micah foretold the birth of Christ as taking place in Bethlehem, there seemed,

almost to the last, no likelihood that this would be. God used a Roman emperor's command to bring Mary to Bethlehem at the very last moment (Luke 2:14) in order that His Word might not fail.

To keep Christmas, and yet not to have received Christ as Saviour, is to trifle with the mercy God has manifested in the gift of His Son. Have we received Him for our very own, and are we seeking to glorify Him in our ways?

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was god . . . And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us . . . He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." (John 1:1-14).

### **BEYOND THE MANGER**

#### **Jesus is born!**

"Fear not . . . for unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

#### **Jesus died!**

But let us remember that Bethlehem is not the end of the Christmas story. The angel said to Joseph: "Thou shalt call His name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21).

#### **Jesus is risen!**

Praise God for good news. Death could not hold our Saviour nor the grave restrain Him. Jesus said: "I have power to lay (My life) down, and I have power to take it again" (John 10:18).

#### **Jesus ascended!**

Jesus was taken up into Heaven. Today, He is the Lord, seated in heavenly places at the right hand of God, "Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come" (Ephesians 1:21). To the shepherds it was announced that He is Lord, even at His birth. (See Luke 2:11).

#### **Jesus is coming!**

And the Christmas story does not end with His exaltation. For He is coming again! Be prepared for His coming! Watch for His coming! "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31)

 C. Leroy Shumaker

## **DO YOU KNOW JESUS?**

*(Continued from page 1)*

"How could one who is dead – even though he died for others – give everlasting life?" you ask. The answer to that question is the best news of all. Christ did indeed die, after an agony of suffering on the cross for us; and He was buried. But God did not allow His Holy One to see corruption. On the third day God raised Christ from the dead, triumphant over sin and death and hell. The risen Lord was seen by many. He gave them His final commands and promises and then ascended to Heaven to sit at His Father's right hand. *The living Christ can give you life everlasting.*

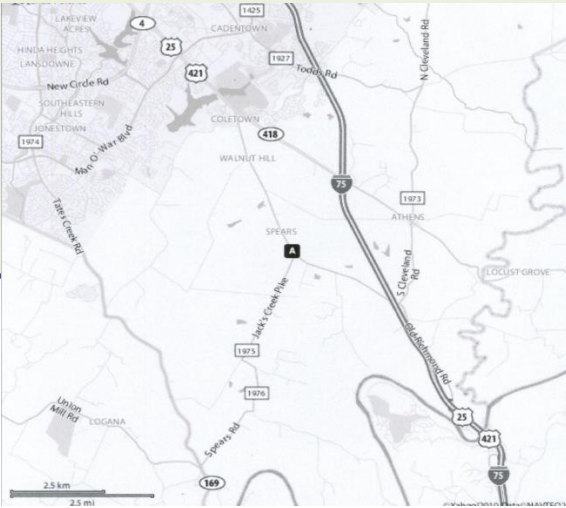
Do you know Jesus? Have you seen Him with the eyes of faith; or heard His voice calling you to Him? Listen for it! It will call you away from sin and sorrow to repentance and joy, to purity and peace. Would you like to know One Who can give you a new heart, taking out of you your love for the world and wicked things, making you into a new creature in Him, and diffusing His love into your heart by the Holy Spirit? Jesus is the One.

Would you like to know one who can control your temper and passion, giving you a pure and lowly heart? Would you like to know one who can comfort you in sorrow, sympathize with you in disappointments? One who will never be a disappointment to you? Jesus is the One.

Do you want to know one who can go with you all the way when others have failed and can go no farther? One Who can go with you through the valley of the shadow of death? Jesus is the One. He has tasted of death for every man:

Do you know Jesus? He was lifted up from the cross to draw you to Him. It is the divine and spotless blood of Christ which atones for our sins. Have you trusted Him to forgive you? He will if you ask Him. Kneel now, in faith. Meet Him at the cross where His lifeblood flowed for you. That blood will cleanse away all your guilt stains. The promise is in I John 1:7, 9, God's spirit will witness with your spirit that you are His. His glory will cover you and he will write your name in the Lamb's book of life.

You need not fear to trust yourself in Christ's hands. Determine to do His will and you will know of the doctrine, whether it is of God or not. Acquaint yourself with Jesus and be at peace.



## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

JESUS CHRIST was born in the meanest circumstances, but the air above was filled with the hallelujahs of the heavenly host. His lodging was the cattle pen, but a star drew distinguished visitants from afar to do Him homage.

His birth was contrary to the laws of life. His death was contrary to the laws of death. No miracle is so inexplicable as His life and teaching.

He had no cornfields or fisheries, but he could spread a table for 5,000 and have bread and fish to spare. He walked on the waters and they supported Him.

His crucifixion was the crime of crimes, but, on god's side, no lower price than His infinite agony could have made possible our redemption. When He died, few men mourned: but a black crepe was hung over the sun. Though men trembled not for their sins, the earth beneath shook under the load. All nature honored Him; sinners alone rejected Him.

Three years he preached His Gospel. He wrote no book, and had no money back of Him. After 1,900 years, He is the one central character of human history, the perpetual theme of all preaching, the pivot around which the events of the age revolve, the only Regenerator of the human race.

Was it merely the son of Joseph and Mary who crossed the world's horizon 1,900 years ago? Was it merely human blood that was spilled on Calvary's hill for the redemption of sinners and which has worked such wonders in men and nations through the centuries?

What thinking man can keep from exclaiming:

"My Lord and my God!"

-- By K. L. Brooks

### HOW ARE WE SAVED

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the GIFT of God: NOT of WORKS, lest any man should boast? (Ephesians 2:8-9) "And if by grace, then it is no more works" (Romans 11:6).

"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness . . . unto whom god imputeth righteousness without works" (Romans 4:5-6).

What a wonderful, glorious way of salvation! In His great love the Lord Jesus Christ went to the cross and laid down His spotless life for ungodly sinners like us! And now He is ready to save and transform your life the moment you come to Him and put your trust in His sacrifice for you.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

--- C. D. Carter