Pastor David's Weekly Devotional

There is one word that perfectly describes the right response to the birth of Jesus Christ – the incarnation of God's Son – and that word is "worship." To worship Christ is to adore and revere Him, to praise and glorify Him, and to honor and obey Him. The worship of Jesus Christ was certainly on display on the very first Christmas, and throughout the birth narratives of Christ:

"When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.' And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ... And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them" (Luke 2:15-20).

"Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him. ... When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh" (Matthew 2:1-2, 10-11).

Worship is the perfect and ultimate expression of Christmas. Without the true worship of Christ as Savior and King, Christmas is just an empty and secular holiday. It was through the birth of Christ, that God made a way for us to worship Him in spirit and in truth (Jn.4:23-24). True worship comes as we recognize the absolute and supreme worth of Jesus Christ, and bow in reverence to His deity and lordship (Lk.1:31-35; Jn.1:1-3, 14; Col.1:13-18).

Unfortunately, many will miss out on the true meaning of Christmas because they have missed the true meaning of the birth of Jesus Christ. God sent His one and only Son, wrapped in human flesh, to live a sinless life and die a sinner's death, raising Himself to life after three days, to be the Lord and Savior of all who would believe in Him. But sadly, many people simply refuse to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of their lives, and the rejecting of Jesus as God's Son is the rejection of God the Father and of God's salvation (see Jn.3:18, 36; 5:22-23; 14:6; 15:23; 1Jn.5:11-12).

The worship of Jesus Christ must be the supremacy and centrality of our Christmas celebrations. We must not let the Christmas decorations and traditions eclipse or supplant the true meaning of Christmas (Matt.1:21; Heb.2:14-18; 1Jn.3:5, 8). We must not make the grave mistake of leaving Christ out of our Christmas celebrations. May we ever seek to glorify and praise God for sending His one and only Son to be our Savior.

"And the angel said to [the shepherds], 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!'" (Luke 2:10-14).

Together in and for Christ, Pastor David (12/22/25)

Scripture Readings for the Week (Monday – Sunday ~ Week #51): Deuteronomy 29-31; Esther 1-5; Psalm 146-148; Song 5-6; Revelation 12-17; Acts 25-26; 3 John Recommended Reading:

"The Deity of Christ" by John MacArthur