



# GOD'S MISSIONARY STANDARD

Official Publication of God's Missionary Church, Inc.  
Penns Creek, Pa.

*"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it." Psalms 68:11.*

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Rev. Barry Arnold D6-76  
RD 1, Box 156  
Mt. Pleasant Mills, Pa.  
17853

## When Christmas Comes

When Christmas comes again this year . . . and shopping crowds are great . . . I must not let my heart forget . . . whose birth we celebrate! . . . While listening to carols sung . . . in every little town . . . I must recall the reason why . . . the angel-choir came down . . . And when the gifts are given out . . . the salutations said . . . I must remember wise men came . . . to find a cattleshed . . . When carolers no longer sing . . . and trees no longer flame . . . my heart must keep remembering . . . why Jesus really came!

Ion woodrum





## THE GLORY OF HIS NAME!



A certain cynicism has developed the age-old matter of giving children names. Many years ago parents pondered greatly what names they should give their children. The names were many times, significant and filled with deep meaning. Today the etymological derivation is not so much a factor as other considerations. One wrote, "Some folks have trouble naming a new baby. Others have rich relatives."

Oliver Wendell Holmes once wrote, "If your name is to live at all, it is much better to have it live in people's hearts than only in their brains." There is one Name which lives on in the hearts of countless millions around the world, the precious Name of Jesus Christ.

The pages of Holy Writ are filled with references to Jesus Christ and to the many appellations and titles which are given Him. There is a wealth of wondrous glory to be found in a study of the names of Jesus. Let us just examine one that is heard over and over again at this time of the year.

Isaiah exulted in this in Chapter 9, verse 6, when he burst forth in prophetic ecstasy — "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

"Wonderful" cries the heart of everyone who has found Him as Lord and Savior. There is Pre-

ciousness in His Name. The songwriter put it well when he wrote:

"Precious name, oh how sweet  
Hope of earth and joy of  
heaven!"

Truly He is wonderful in His ministration to us. He has:

Wonderful eyes to see us,  
Wonderful ears to hear us,  
Wonderful heart to love us  
Wonderful hands to hold us  
Wonderful words to cheer us  
Wonderful Spirit to guide us  
Wonderful home to which to  
to take us.

Every distraught and troubled soul may breathe "Counsellor" in their deepest woe and perplexity. He who has trod the way before us, meeting the very things which we are meeting, is able to empathize as no one else ever could, and advise us with never any margin for error or guesswork. The old songwriter said, "He knows the way He takes, and I will walk with Him." Yes, There is *Prudence* in His Name.

When buffeted by the tempter, when fiery darts are winging our way, what a comfort to know that we have a "mighty God" who is able to take our place and assures us of constant victory. "When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay." Thank God for the *Power* of His Name!

What a joy to recognize the filial relationship which is ours in Him. Surely, there are times for chastisement, but these are acts of love from our "everlasting Father" who desires nothing but what is best for us. Instant access to the throne and all that heaven afford is ours by simply breathing out "Father." Let us enjoy the *Provisions* which are ours through

His Name.

In a world that is wrecked by turmoil and strife; homes that are torn asunder by animosity, lives that are filled with bitterness and self-reproach, the "Prince of Peace" desires to bring to us a "peace which the world cannot give, and which it cannot take away." This peace, which is not predicated on earthly possessions, positions or proclamations is ours by submitting to Him. It will never be negotiated by Mr. Kissinger or any other earthly being; it is imparted from above. My heart rejoices in the *Peace* in His Name.

Friends, there is glory in His Name. We have a Precious relationship, Prudent Counsel, Power, Provisions and Peace in this old troubled world through Jesus Christ. No wonder the prophet cried out and the poet penned the words:

Jesus, oh how sweet the Name  
Jesus, every day the same.  
Jesus, let all saints proclaim  
Its worthy praise forever.

D.L.F.

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# THE INDWELLING SPIRIT

by Stephen R. Hicks

## PART 2

Sanctification means Christianity in depth. Having God in our heart is serious business. It should cause every nerve in our body to quiver to think of God living in our heart. I John 2:6 "He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk even as He walked." Indeed, he ought to. "Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" I Cor. 6:19.

Although faith is the condition upon which we are Sanctified, let it be understood that there has never been one single soul filled with the Holy Spirit who was not completely consecrated. Rather or not a saved man can be less than completely consecrated is a point to be discussed at another time and place. If I want to be full of God, I must be empty to all else. If I want God to be mine, I have got to be His. It is no great wonder that so few are filled with the Spirit as they were commanded; they are too much filled with everything else. Sanctification, I am sure, is for those who get serious about Spirituality; for those who truly want God more than anything in the world.

I heard this testimony given a number of years ago. "I had sought God for years to be sanctified before finally being filled with the Spirit, but I am convinced, had I prayed the first time like I did the last time I would have received the blessing then." What is it then that makes the difference? Faith to believe and a heart that wants nothing, nothing at all as much as it wants God.

Consecrating is necessary, but it is not always clearly defined and put in its rightful place. Some people are so interested in making a perfect sacrifice that they forget to seek God for the fire to consume it. I am convinced in my own mind that we often follow the wrong pattern in attempting to attain Holiness. Too often we

seek some gratifying experience rather than seeking God himself. If we seek an experience, we may get one and it might be a bad one. If we seek God, we'll find God and that ought to be experience enough. If we are going to call Sanctification or Holiness an experience, let's be sure we make it clear what we mean. We can experience God coming into our hearts to abide. We readily admit this. But, we can also experience an emotional climax or a mental ecstasy and never move a step closer to God.

People must be told to seek God. Back to our illustrations of this seed, then the plant, then the bud, etc. Many seek the seed, but, because they feel they have attained "their experience, but, because they feel they have attained "their experience," they never seek for the plant experience, then the bud and the flower, etc. They have sought, past tense, and they seek no more. Christians must be seekers.

"If we think of what God plans for us, and has provided in His grace, in the sense of maturity and depth and skill, we are always behind. But the question is, are we merely behind what God expects us to be next year, or are we also behind in what He expects of us today? The contractor who hasn't yet finished the house because he has six more weeks in the contract can't be accused of failing, even though the house is incomplete. But if he is behind schedule, and not catching up, he is in a serious bind, things need to be done fast." Christians are behind in their seeking God. They are not satisfied with an antiquated experience. Sanctification is keeping our experience up to date. That means being on talking terms with God. If we do something wrong, we tell Him about it. Why not? He's our best friend. It is not a mere experience. It is a life full of God.

The question must surely arise here; can we be filled with the Spirit at one instant and remain full till we cross the line of worlds? This question had plagued my mind often, then I came upon

this passage, "Draw nigh to God and He will draw nigh to you" James. 4:8. Can we ever get as close to God as is possible within the realms of His provision? I think not. The paradox is this: We can be filled, but we also can be more full. The Psalmist spoke of the Lord enlarging his heart. We can gain, by drawing nigh to God, a greater capacity to love God and thus be more full of Him than we were. But it requires a seeking after, a longing for God that never subsides or becomes latent. This is the loving God with all our heart, soul and mind that will bring God nigh to us. The more we love God the more of God we find there is to love. The more intimate our

(Continued on Page 6)

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Editor—

Rev. David Fuller  
Box 97  
Penns Creek, Pa. 17862

Associate Editor—

Rev. Paul Miller  
R.D. 1  
Spring Mills, Pa. 16875

Business Manager—

Rev. Carl Kready  
Box 100  
Penns Creek, Pa. 17862

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# CHURCH NEWS

## LEBANON

Greetings from the land of the Pennsylvania Dutch. The Lord is moving on hearts as He did in years gone by. God gave us a good revival, Sept. 18-29 with Rev. John Archer as evangelist and the Fullers as singers. The Spirit of God was upon each service. There were many seeking God in saving and sanctifying power, and praise the Lord there are some that still have a ringing testimony today as I write this article. There were a few that bowed at the altar of prayer, the last service, that hadn't been seeking God for years. Our prayer is that we may continue to see revival fires burn on our hearts until Jesus comes back. God give us men and women that will be willing to pay the price for the souls of men. There is no price too great to pay in seeing the lost saved from an awful Hell. It will take praying, fasting and denying of ourselves to see victory in this day.

The young people of our church decided to participate in Harvest Home for Penn View this year. We set a goal of \$2000.00 to be reached within five weeks. The money received was in turn taken, by the youth president to several nearby merchants who gave most everything below wholesale cost. The one merchant, (Smith Sales) gave several items as a donation. We thank the Lord for his generosity toward Penn View. Well, needless to say, we went over the top. Hallelujah! Besides the groceries we purchased, we decided to buy a beef, to be delivered the beginning of the year. The total amount brought in for this project was \$2876.00. This made our hearts rejoice to know that the Lord helped us go over our goal. We also know that Penn View needs all the help we as the Children of God can give in these days. You never can outgive God. This writer can prove this! Our students at Penn View (Elizabeth Kline, Sharon Peters, Keith Arndt) are enjoying the fruit of our labors. Praise the Lord! We at Lebanon appreciate Penn View and our

## MARY BOOP

Mary Elizabeth Boop, daughter of Harvey and Sarah Shemory, was born in Limestone Township, Union County, Pa. November 3rd, 1925. She passed away Sunday, October 12th, 1975 in the Evangelical Community Hospital at Lewisburg, Pa. Sr. Boop passed away after a prolonged illness, and periodic hospitalization. She bore her suffering patiently, and assured her family, friends and Pastor of her readiness to meet her God. The funeral services were conducted in the James Schwartz Funeral Home in Mifflinburg by her Pastor. She is survived by her husband, Nelson, and one son Kenneth. She rests in the Hartleton Cemetery awaiting the Trumpet Sound of the first resurrection.

students.

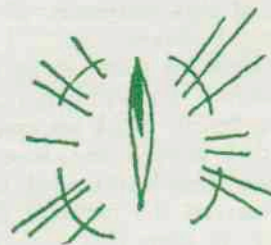
On Oct. 18, 1975 one of our boys took the marriage vows with Sue Hildebrand from Vicksburg, Michigan. Dale Arndt and Sue were married in Michigan so there were just a few who were able to attend the ceremony. But we have good reports of the wedding. On Oct. 25, we did have a opportunity to attend a reception on their behalf at the Ono Fire Hall. We had a chance to congratulate the newlyweds. God's richest blessing be upon them as they make their abode in Michigan.

In conclusion, we desire the prayers of each reader here at Lebanon.

In His Service  
Leonard Raub

## Evangelists' Slate

Rev. John Archer  
2419 Oakwood Avenue  
Zanesville, Ohio 43701  
Rev. N. N. Fair, Sr.  
Rt. No. 2  
Liberty, S. C. 29657  
Rev. and Mrs. Nick Fair  
Al-Mar Acres  
State College, Pa.  
Rev. Jack Jarrett  
633 N. George St.  
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Dec. 31 - Jan. 4 (Ev. Bre.) Berrys-  
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Jan. 9-18 (Friends) Westfield, Ind.  
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Rev. Earl Deetz, Sr. is available for services, whether they be one day, week-end, or full length revival meetings. He may be contacted by writing to:

Rev. Earl Deetz, Sr.  
21 N. Diamond St.  
Shamokin, Pa. 17872  
Telephone 717-648-4904



## General Youth Rally Helfenstein, Pa. (Oct. 17, 1975)

A good representation of churches was present for the rally at Helfenstein: Beavertown church topped the list with some fifty-five. There was a good spirit and it seemed the meeting fairly took wings as we sang one chorus after another, rejoicing in the goodness of Jesus.

Our speakers for the evening were Mr. and Mrs. Donald Granite of Clarence, Pa. They attend the Milesburg God's Missionary Church. Sis. Granite sang two special songs, and then both gave their testimony how God saved from out of the darkness of the Roman Catholic Church. She had been a catechism teacher, and two of the sons had been altar boys, attending the priest in his ceremonies. God dealt with Sis. Granite and she was saved at her kitchen sink. "I just knew I was saved. It was so simple. I called several of my Catholic girlfriends, but only one even knew what I was talking about." He was not saved till several months later.

They began to search for a church. One night he and several children (they have seven) went to revival meeting at Milesburg. She asked him, "What was it like?" He said, "You'll have to see for yourself." That was early in 1973 and they have scarcely missed a single service since that time.

We rejoiced to hear how their whole family was changed. After they spoke to us, we had the entire family stand in front of the altar. What a thrill to see them all with a testimony — saved through Jesus' grace! Hallelujah!

But they are just one family. Thousands more are still in darkness. Our prayers should go out to Roman Catholics. They have a form of godliness but no power. This family has a good testimony, especially a good witness to Catholics.

Thanks to you for supporting another rally. Thanks to the church for the open door. But above all "thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift!"

Timothy L. Cooley

## November Rally Nov. 10, 1975 Lewistown, Pa.

We sincerely appreciate your fine response to another rally. A good number gathered. Beavertown church was again in the lead with over sixty persons attending. There were a number of other churches represented as well as several Evangelical Methodist congregations.

The Victory Trio (Judy Williams, Penny Ford, Mary Braun) ministered in special singing and the Word. Sis. Mary Braun led a rousing song service, including, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" (or "Mine Eyes have seen the Glory"). The spirit of the meeting was high. We enjoyed two vocal numbers and an instrumental.

Sis. Williams preached a stirring message. "The man who said he would, but couldn't," from Judges 16:20. Samson thought he could handle the matter in his own way but when the test came couldn't. Young people often think they can quit sin when they are ready but it is not that easy. Sin binds, blinds, and it grinds. It binds with the guilt of the past, with the hopelessness of the present, and with the helplessness of the future. It binds to the reality of one's own condition and to the presence of the Savior. It grinds and grinds in haunting memories.

Sis. Williams testifies of how God had met various personal needs and answered prayer. Again and again she shouted, "It pays to serve Jesus. It pays. It pays."

She exhorted us to choose God's way at any cost, affirming that the way of the transgressor is hard and that it binds us more and more until we cannot escape. Only Jesus can set us free.

Many thanks to all of you for supporting the rally with your presence and good spirit. We trust God for greater things ahead.

Please support us in prayer.

T. Cooley

## Coveteousness at Christmas

"The life is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment."  
Luke 12:23

These words follow a very familiar parable. A young man had requested of Jesus, "Master, speak to my brother that he divide the inheritance with me." Jesus declined, and then said, "Take heed, and beware of coveteousness" . . . What? Coveteousness? The man had only asked for his own rights! Yes, Coveteousness. Jesus knew how much material things meant to the young man.

He gave the parable of the Rich Fool who decided to build bigger barns in which to store his abundance and then to retire and take it easy. But God said, "Thou, fool . . ." You know the rest, he was to die that night!

There is no evidence this man was anything but honest. It is not said that he refused to give to the poor or that he did not give tithes and offerings at the synagogue. No gross sin is laid upon him. There is only one indictment—he was "not rich toward God." He had planned only for this present life.

Americans are like Spoiled Children. We are very jealous of our "rights". We are very fond of toys and vain, valueless possessions. Snowmobiles, motorcycles, motorhomes or travel trailers, games, recreation, fun—we must have it all. We have likewise spoiled our children, until the main subject of conversation this month is, "What are you going to get for Christmas?" We are much like the rich fool! We plan for *now*. We want a good time here. Let's eat, drink, and be merry. Certainly, many of us give tithes and offerings. Some may go even beyond that and give more, but most of us give out of our abundance! We do not hurt ourselves in our giving. Any one who does is thought to be a fanatic. We feel pious to give \$100 to Foreign Missions. We feel very spiritual if we manage to fast a meal. God helps us! We know nothing of real sacrifice.

Jesus warns us, "There is more

(Continued on Page 9)



# Christmas -- The Missionaries Heartbreak

Kay Smith

The feverish cry of a little child rings out in the hot night. Her cry comes often. "Oh, Daddy, bring me a cold drink of water!" "Mother, I'm so hot. Will it soon be morning?" The hushed whisper of a young missionary mother comes in comforting softness in an effort to still the child's restless tossing and feverish cries.

In the other dimly lighted room the missionary father sits with bowed head, a picture of despair, weariness, and heartbreak. He cannot stand the cries of his baby—his only little girl, born to him and his young wife a few short years ago. How can he remind her that there is no cold water—only the water in a sterilized container, warm and flat with the boiling? How can he comfort her with the words, "It won't be long 'til morning, darling," when he knows that with the morning comes no relief from the heat, insects, and the hundred other things that will only add to the miseries of his little one?

His eyes are burning and hot with unshed tears as he raises his head to look for his old tattered Bible lying so near him. He holds it in his hands lovingly, and then the anguish of his heart causes him to cry out his need to God.

"Oh, God, why was I sent here? Is it fair to subject my darling to this misery? . . . This is Christmas Eve back home, Lord. There will be snow on the ground—bright lights, happy laughter. Oh, God, if I had only a little snow to place on the fevered lips of my little girl! . . . There will be happy throngs milling around the brightly lighted stores. I remember doing my last-minute shopping at home . . . How long has it been?

"Friends will be greeting friends, saying 'Merry Christmas, Happy New Year!' Oh, those times were good . . . Mother and Dad will be planning on the other children coming home . . . Mother is no doubt in the

kitchen baking those good pies and fixing the turkey. It's been a long time since I have tasted American food! Not enough of vegetables and good fresh milk here, Lord. That is why my little one is ill . . .

Oh, God, does anyone care that we have given up the joy of Christmas Eve at home? Have they forgotten us completely? There was not much money in the mail for Christmas . . . Perhaps it will come later. People don't mean to be thoughtless, Lord, but oh, if they knew what it means to have their love gifts arrive in time to buy something for my little one and my precious wife.

"I wonder how much our friends are spending on their families tonight. I wonder if they know how much it would mean to me to be able to give a drink of cold water to my baby or put a new toy into her restless little hands to bring a smile to her lips and a little joy to her heart . . . I wonder if they know how much it would mean to us to be able to walk into our church tonight, all brightly lighted, with softly playing music, and mingle with our friends after listening to the Word of God poured out from a sincere heart . . .

"Lord, we do miss our church, our friends, our families. It is especially hard tonight, Lord, for it is Christmas Eve. Oh, God, why am I here?"

Then comes a voice soft and sweet. "You are here, my child, because you love Me. You are here, My son, because you are not your own. You were bought with a price, the price of My blood shed for you. You are here because I am here. Didn't I promise never to leave you nor forsake you? Be of good cheer, my son. It is Christmas in your heart because I dwell there. Did you think I did not care? Take courage, trust Me; your child is in My hands. Tomorrow is Christmas; it knows no boundary, time, nor place. It can be Christmas in your heart."

—The Missionary Digest

## The Indwelling Spirit

(Continued from Page 3)

relationship becomes, the closer we want to get. What man has ever felt he could not be one speck more like Jesus? That man would be more than man; he would be a god himself. Nevertheless, it is God's wish for man that he become most intimate with Him. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." 1 John 3:1. He wants us to love Him most, so He loves us with so great a love as to call us sons. It is this great love that draws us toward God all of our life. It is this great love, in the person of the Spirit in our life, that we call sanctification. God living in the core of the man; the man who wants God there more than anything else, and by living within the man, draws the man closer and closer and closer. That is Sanctification to me. Call it an experience, a second work, a second grace; call it what we may, it is God in the man. It is all of God in all the man, at least all the man today. Tomorrow the man may be bigger inside and there's always more of God to fill the new space. Or perhaps it would be more correct to say the man grows inside as God comes in more and more. The man must make room for God. God never pushes Himself in, it is strictly a give and take proposition. If we want more of His presence in our life, if we let Him know we want it, really want it bad, He is there. He enlarges our capacity and fills us to the brim. Thus if we draw nigh to God, He will draw nigh to us. Christian development is actually entire sanctification in action. "It is easy to talk about Christians growing in grace, but in actual fact the growth of believers not wholly sanctified is very, very slight." They may change outwardly, they will if they have really found God. But, the real drawing nigh to God, the actual spiritual growth of maturity will be slight. As the soul begins to pant after God as the heart after the water brooks, sanctification is begun, and I like to think it will never stop.



# The Greatest Miracle of Christmas

by Raymond E. Pollard

*"And the Word was made flesh,  
and dwelt among us . . ."*

(John 1:4)

The greatest miracle of Christmas, to me, is not the angels' song over those Judean hillsides which the shepherds heard, nor the miraculous star that appeared to lead three wise men to the place where the young Child lay, nor the providential circumstances that brought that peasant couple from Nazareth to Bethlehem exactly on time to fulfill the ancient prophecy of Micah. Not these, nor a number of other things, produce the sense of awe and wonder this writer feels at Christmastime. To me, the real miracle of Christmas is expressed in this old, familiar song usually reserved for this season of the year: "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing!"

"Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Long desired, behold Him come,  
finding here His humble home;  
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see;  
Hail th' Incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel!"

There is the miracle of Christmas: "Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see." To put it in the words of John: "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us" — Jesus ("the Word") became man ("flesh") and "dwelt [tabernacled] among us." He pitched His tent among us, and brought God within the reach and understanding of us all. Can we ever cease to marvel at that! This is what we mean when we speak of "the incarnate Christ" — He came "in the flesh." Thus, the Incarnation of the Son of God is the fact of God's becoming man — an uncreated, divine Person, who had eternal pre-existence. He took the form of a created being, and became in time what He was not, in eternity — "flesh."

But as great a part of the miracle as the *fact*, is the *method* by which this was accomplished. The virgin birth was the method by which God the Son became man.

It seems we need a renewed emphasis on this glorious truth in our day. Many attempts are being made to cheapen our estimate of Christ, and to attack His deity, and reduce Him to a mere man among men, for some reason, the Biblical teaching that Jesus was born of a virgin has been the battleground of attack by both ancient and modern skeptics. Perhaps this is due to two things: (1) they refuse to accept this record of a biological miracle as true; and (2) they do not want to believe His claims that He was the Son of God. Admitting the virgin birth would admit this. So they either totally reject the virgin birth or reduce it to the level of unimportance.

To be guilty of either of these is to rob the Christmas Story of its true content, for Christmas is more than cheery greetings, uplifting music and the exercise of benevolence. It is "Immanuel! — God with us." It is the mystery of a miracle birth. It is the wonder of God veiling Himself in human flesh. To deny or reduce to the level of unimportance the virgin birth, is to destroy the vital foundation of our faith and rob the Christmas message of its greatest miracle.

The virgin birth was first foretold in Genesis 3:15 where it was promised that the Great Deliverer would be of "the seed of the woman." One noted scientist said: "Biologically, all people are normally of the seed of the male." This prophecy was later clarified in Isaiah 7:14. The word used in this prophecy for "virgin" has been debated by many, but its usage is always consistent with the meaning, "virgin." In fact, the standard Greek word for "virgin" is used here by the scholars in the Greek Septuagint; and Matthew, quite obviously quoting Isaiah's prophecy, does the same. There are other references in the Old Testament (Isa. 9:6-7, Micah 5:2), and some in the Gospels and Epistles (such as Gal. 4:4) which clearly imply or explicitly state the virgin birth.

The modern liberals object to this, for they say such an event

would be contrary to biological law. But that is just the point — the virgin birth was a mighty miracle accomplished directly by the power of God himself! (Read Luke 1:35). "Mary, the virgin, was the mother of a Son — and the Son, just as old as God the Father and ages older than His mother, was the Maker of His mother. The weak Babe nursed at a mother's breast was Almighty God."

Yes, Jesus is virgin born. If not, we have no Savior. If not, we have no integrity, no credibility, no reliability of the Scriptures. All are involved in the truth of the virgin birth. If Christ was born of man and not of God, Calvary has no meaning, and the Gospels are not Good News, but a tissue of falsehoods. To be truly our Savior, He had to be far more than a mere man. So when you think of the Christmas Story (the angels, the star, the singing, the shepherds, the wise men, Bethlehem), do not lose sight of the central and basic truth at Christmas: *the miracle of the virgin birth*. That first Christmas climaxed the greatest event in all history since Creation itself. Certainly, true Christians must believe and rejoice in the historical fact of the virgin birth of their Lord and Savior. This is the Alpha of our Christian faith. **JESUS IS VIRGIN BORN . . .** that is the greatest miracle of Christmas!

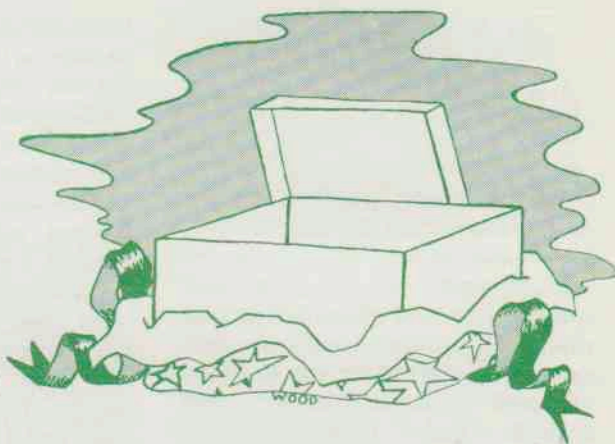
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# NOTHING for Christmas

By Trudy Harvey



Freddie quivered with excitement as he gazed at the bulging stocking. It was so very kind of Mr. Hollis to think of him — the little orphan boy — and include him in with his own children. They had just opened theirs and now every eye was on the trembling Freddie as he proceeded to discover the contents of his precious stocking. In plunged his hand and excitement gave place to perplexity as out tumbled — not all sorts of sweets and toys such as had been in the other stockings, but only a host of plain wood shavings. In plunged the little hand once more to achieve the same result. Freddie looked puzzled. Well, surely there must be some precious gift tucked down out of sight, perhaps in the very toe of the stocking. But no — nothing could he discover except more of those frustrating shavings. The little boy by this time was a picture of disappointment as he sat gazing at the now empty stocking. But to Mr. Hollis, standing by, it was all a huge practical joke. "Ha, ha, ha, that's a good joke on Freddie," he laughed.

Freddie slipped out of the room as soon as possible and ran to the hayshed, to sob out his aching little heart among the soft comfort of the hay. He was so very disappointed. He had tried so hard to help Mr. Hollis around the farm and do each chore cheerfully, which wasn't always easy; and he did so miss his parents who had both died — his father when he was six and his mother three years later, just before he had come to Mr. Hollis. And now the cruelty of the joke that Christmas morning seemed the last straw. Down flowed the tears, thick and fast. Many a boy would have become embittered for life as a result of such treatment, but Freddie was different. His mother had often told him that there was a kind Heavenly Father whose love for little boys was even greater than that of any earthly parent. And now on that memorable Christmas morning Freddie was proving that that was indeed true. Such a sense of comfort surrounded and filled his sad heart that he just knew that he could tell Him about it and He was sure to understand. Freddie felt so much better after confiding his troubles to this Heavenly Father that he could even go about his usual morning chores.

He never quite forgot this incident, however, and while it did not embitter him it made him ultra sensitive to the feelings of little children. It also influenced him in his writing of hymns, especially the one which begins, "My Father has many dear children; Will He ever forget

to keep me?" Eventually Fred A. Graves became a noted hymn-writer and wrote other well-known pieces such as "He was nailed to the cross for me," and "Honey in the Rock."

Mr. Hollis, on the other hand, became the loser for his treatment of the little orphan boy. He became increasingly moody and dissatisfied with life until one day he decided to end it all in suicide — quite a contrast to the happy and useful life which Freddie grew up to lead. Mr. Hollis had never learned the simple fact that Freddie had discovered that Christmas morning — and perhaps it is true to say that we adults are slower to accept these simple truths — that there is indeed a Heavenly Father waiting for us to cease carrying our troubles, to stop trying to remedy our sins, in short, trying so unsuccessfully to cope with life in general, and to simply look to Him as Father and trust Him to take over our lives.

But there is the fact about the shavings too. All through life, we get our hearts fixed on things or on people. We expect them to satisfy our longing, aching heart — in fact, we don't realize how much we have relied on them until one day we discover that they are nothing but shavings after all.

I believe that it would be the most wonderful of all Christmases if we could discover as individuals the great Gift of our Heavenly Father which will never disappoint, which will never lose its wonder or its capacity of satisfying our hearts. It was about that Gift, given to poor, sinful, wretched humanity many years ago, that Isaiah wrote, "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."

You see, when nothing but shavings is found in the "stockings" of our ambitions and cherished hopes, our Heavenly Father is standing by, not only to hear the anguished cry of our disillusioned hearts, but to remind us that up to that moment we have either spurned or been unaware of His Gift to us — the Gift of His Son, and in His Son the gift too of salvation from sin, and from eternal punishment for that sin. "By grace are ye saved," says St. Paul, "through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God."





# ... HOME MISSIONS ...

## The Holy Spirit In Home Missions

*"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."*

Matthew 9:37

We are living in a day of tremendous needs. It seems as godliness wanes so does everything else. When our country honored God we prospered but along with sin comes shortages. When our churches begin to cool off and become lukewarm then also trouble sets in. The Holy Ghost is the only answer! God said, "Them that honor me, I will honor." I Sam. 2:30. God is looking for people to uplift Christ and the Holy Ghost instead of human personality.

We are dealing in this article with the shortage of laborers filled with the Holy Ghost. More and more there are sheep without a shepherd. For years missionaries have sent out pleas for needed laborers on the foreign soil—that need still remains. Now it is found right here at home. Churches suffer without a full-time pastor. Others are calling for someone to lead them out and start an old-fashioned holiness church where once again the Spirit has His way. The home mission department could do more but where are the laborers to work with! Our schools are just not producing them. Our churches are not sending them out. The reason is a lack of PRAYER and the HOLY GHOST. When a church is praying like she should God will be on her. We need the Holy Ghost to convict our young people of their sins, we need the Holy Ghost to reveal the depths of depravity and lead them into a real experience of Holiness, and we need the Holy Ghost to burn the call on the hearts of our young people.

There definitely is a need for laborers and the right kind. We need laborers who had a definite born again experience. Many fail to pray through. We need to pray until the Spirit witnesses. This only comes when one goes to the bottom and surrenders

ALL. Too many have hidden reservations, fail to say that last "YES" and GO THROUGH.

We need laborers with a definite experience of sanctification. In this day of hurry we push them out too fast. Jesus said, "Tarry until ye be endued with power from on high." The divine prerequisite is HOLINESS. We are living in a day of SHAMS; sham altar work, sham seeking, sham testifying, — sham living. True holiness will burn out the sham and dross. We need to tarry and take time to die out. The most of us didn't die too easily. The old man puts on a fight and doesn't want to die. Let the Holy Ghost deal with every area of your life—your plans, ambitions, desires, and goals. Let HIM break it all up. As a young boy I knew of a house I liked and wanted to have one like it when I grew up but I had to let God "burn it up" when He took control of my life. Many don't think God deals with little insignificant things but He DOES. One Sunday morning when only a lad I was dressing for church and was putting my cuff links on and the Holy Ghost whispered and said, "You shouldn't wear them." And I haven't since that day. He'll deal with every aspect of your life. He'll even tell you what kind of shoes to wear. Oh, for young people who will let GO and let God work on them and break them, melt them, and mold them. Holiness will kill carnality and self in you. You'll never be the same! Glory to God!

We need laborers with definite convictions. Too many are saying, "I don't see anything wrong with that." Too many are taking the easy way—no reproach, no persecution, no battles. We need laborers who will be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

We need laborers who have definite blessings. There is nothing as thrilling as to see a young person "taste the glory." Young

people should be blessed. We're seeing fewer people getting blessed. If the pulpit loses the fire so will the pew. We need to guard against nice services that are full of ice. We need Jesus once again to come and change our water into wine — the new wine of Canaan.

We must close this article, but our heart hungers to see a revival of old-time power and glory and the needs met. The Holy Ghost is our ONLY answer!

—Arlan L. Kratz

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### Coveteousness at Christmas

(Continued from Page 5)

to life than food and clothes—material things." Our eyes are often content to rest upon the things of this life. We seem to forget eternity and the doom of lost souls. Anyone who cries such things in our ears is spoiling our good time. Read Luke 12:13-40 prayerfully. Instead of lavishing our abundance on ourselves we should put it to work for God.

Let's resolve this Christmas to remember God in our giving! We should give Him at least as much as we give that special one in our lives. Give it to missions, or to the poor, or to some worthy project, where you can be assured Jesus would say, "inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

I challenge you to really say with heart and hand, "Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift!"

T. Cooley



May the Joy and Peace  
of this Blessed  
Season  
Be with you into the New Year

**Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year**

The Standard Staff

The second time, to rule and  
reign.

To end all sorrow, death, and  
pain.

In endless bliss we then shall  
dwell

With Him who saved our souls  
from Hell.

And worship Him — not  
Christmas!

—M. R. DeHaan, M.D., Teacher  
Radio Bible Class



### Can This Be Christmas?

What meaneth all this fuss and  
worry?

Whence go these crowds to  
run and scurry?

Why all the lights — the Christ-  
mass trees?

The silly "fat man"? Tell me,  
please!

Why, don't you know? This is  
the day

When everybody should be  
gay.

For this is Christmas!

So this is Christmas, do you say?

But where is Christ this Christ-  
mas Day?

Has He been lost among the  
throng?

His voice drowned out by  
empty song?

No, He's not here — you'll find  
Him where

Some humble soul now kneels  
in prayer;

There you'll find Christ — not  
Christmas.

In countless homes the candles  
burning.

In countless hearts expectant  
yearning

For gifts and presents, food and  
fun.

And laughter till the day is  
done.

But not a tear or grief or sorrow  
For Him so poor He had to  
borrow

A crib, a cot, a boat, a bed.

I'm sick of all this empty  
celebration,

Of feasting, drinking,  
recreation;

I'll go instead to Calvary.  
And there I'll kneel with those  
who know

The meaning of that manger  
low.

And find the CHRIST — not  
Christmas.

And find the Christ — not  
Christmas.

I leap by faith across the years  
To that great day when He  
appears

### NEEDS AT PENN VIEW BIBLE INSTITUTE

—Electric typewriters for typing  
classes:

—Paint or money to buy paint for  
our class rooms (3 gallons semi-  
gloss needed per room)

—Donated labor — general clean-  
up, painting, carpentry, masonry,  
plastering

—Garbage cans, garbage bags

—Sewing machines for proposed  
Home Economics Class

—Snow Shovels, rakes, brooms,  
brushes

—Adding machines, calculators for  
Business Department (or \$59.00  
for each machine).

### Help A Needy Student Fund

(Tax Deductible)

Help some needy student today.  
Write us for information. MAKE  
CHECKS PAYABLE TO PENN  
VIEW BIBLE INSTITUTE Needy  
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WE NEED FINANCIAL AID TO-  
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Make checks payable to Choir BUS  
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P. O. Box 97, Penns Creek, Pa. 17862



# "Born This Day"

By Paul S. Rees

In the Luke account of our Savior's birth, we have these words: "Born this day . . . a Savior" (2:11).

Along with the coming of Jesus certainly there were some things associated with Him, with His person and with His advent, that were also born.

## I.

First, let us say that born this day with the birthday of Jesus was a **new understanding of God**. I think it is not too much to put it in just that fashion. There are several things that could be said at this point, but I want to single out just one. One great new thing that was added to our understanding of God in the coming of Jesus is that God is a **seeking** God.

Now, mind you, that is a very different thing from saying that He is a God who may be sought. The Old Testament is full of that. In a very beautiful and moving passage in Isaiah's prophecy, the 55th chapter and the 6th and 7th verses, we read, "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon." But will you please note the posture that God takes in that passage? I am returning to Him. There He is, merciful — the promise says so. He's forgiving — the passage declares it. He's approachable — that's wonderful.

But that is **my seeking for Him**.

When you come to the birthday of Jesus you've added something new to man's conception of God: here is God Himself coming, in the person of His only and everlasting Son, seeking, seeking, this creature of His wisdom and His love, who has taken himself out of fellowship with his Creator and his Sovereign and is going his own way.

This Jesus looks into the eyes of men one day and says, as Luke so beautifully records it in the 19th chapter of his Gospel and the 10th verse, "The Son of man is come to seek. . . ." In the Old Testament God says, "Yes, you seek Me. I'm available, I'm accessible, I will be merciful." But here is a step far greater, leagues greater: it is God seeking. "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

That is God in the coming of His Son Jesus Christ!

## II.

I remind us all that born this day is not only a new understanding of God, which is a tremendously important thing, but born this day is also a **new appreciation of glory**.

I take you first to John. We have him saying, "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth" (1:14).

Glory — found in Jesus, this child of peas-

ant parents. You say that can't be. When men talk about glory, when the world talks about glory they want something like Caesar's palace which was an establishment so fantastically elegant and luxurious that it was said even the mules of the royal stables were shod with silver. That's glory!

But surely not this — a manger and a little baby, born to nobody so far as the social register is concerned. This Man who, when He grew up, only had one decent robe to put on His back, and the soldiers threw dice for that when He was hanging on a cross — any glory there?

And the answer is two things. Christmas reveals the glory of **character**. And that is never anything you can put on, never anything you can stage.

You women can put on mascara and get what Hollywood calls glamour, but you can't get glory. Never! Glory is different from glamour. Glamour is purely external. Glory, in this Christian sense, is deeply internal. It is character. It is the same kind of grace and truth that Jesus Christ embodies and that He, dwelling within us by His Holy Spirit, produces in us. You can put on glamour but you cannot put on glory! That is grown deep within the character by this Savior Christ.

And the other kind of glory we have illustrated so beautifully at Christmas is the glory of the **commonplace**.

In John we saw the glory of character — "We beheld his glory . . . full of grace and truth." Now in Luke we have these words concerning the shepherds: "And the glory of the Lord shown round about them. . . ." (2:9).

Who were these to whom reference is made? Just ordinary shepherds with a commonplace **vocation**, keeping sheep.

The commonplace couple. That is not said with any disrespect but in sober truth. Joseph and Mary in the eyes of men were a commonplace couple. They had no titles, they had no wealth, they had no prestige. But it was to them the glory of the Incarnation was entrusted!

And the commonplace **town** was Bethlehem, very commonplace.

Commonplace vocation — and yet glory. Commonplace couple — and yet glory. Commonplace town — and yet glory. What determines whether or not there's any glory around where you live, in the shop where you're employed or the school where you study, is if you are living with this Christ who was "born this day" and if you are allowing the beauty of His purpose to fulfill itself in your life, and the glory — the sheer splendor — of His motives to be your motives in life.

O God, our Father, we thank Thee for the new understanding of thyself that was born that day when the virgin brought forth her first born and laid Him in a manger. And we thank Thee for the new conception of what glory really is.



Penn  
View

Bible  
Institute



1 December 1975

Dear Friend of Penn View Bible Institute: Christian Greetings!

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us . . ." Christmas is our celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Before His ascension, Jesus admonished His followers to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Penn View Bible Institute was established with the goal of preparing young people to be knowledgeable in the Word of God so that they might tell others of Christ's power to save from sin.

Because of our desire to honor God, many times during this past year we have seen Him working on behalf of Penn View Bible Institute. His presence has prevailed during our Chapel and revival services, and students and faculty members expressed the praise to God that burned upon their heart. Prayer requests were made for health, financial, and spiritual needs and the God who "inhabits eternity" was faithful to answer the pleas of His people. Whether or not the faculty and staff members realized it—I do not know—but there were times when there were not adequate finances to meet the payroll expenses. At one such time, several minutes before Mrs. Deetz was to go to the bank to deposit the monies that had been received, God provided the need—and the pay envelopes appeared in the appropriate mailboxes on time. At other times when it seemed that "ends would not meet," we received checks in the mail with a few penned lines stating that God prodded individuals to send us a contribution. This is the God whom we serve. We believe that people—those who are willing to obey Him in the smallest matter—are the instruments that God uses to forward His work. The prayers and sacrifices on the part of God's people during the past year have enabled us to operate Penn View Bible Institute. However, we cannot depend upon the victories of the past to meet today's obligations. Recently at a government-parochial school meeting, we saw how rapidly legislation is working to close religious institutions such as ours. Increased pricing on utility bills and taxation have made the financial burden heavier. We must all work together to forward the cause of Christian education.

At this season of giving, we are depending upon you to help us to meet our financial obligations. We ask that you prayerfully consider the needs of Penn View Bible Institute and give to us as the Lord directs you. Your gift of \$100.00, \$50.00, \$20.00, \$10.00, \$5.00 or any amount will be greatly appreciated. The smallest gift means much to us. We will promptly send a receipt for your gift (which is fully tax deductible).

Wishing you God's very best at this holiday season, I remain

Very sincerely for Christian education,

Earl L. Deetz, Jr.  
Assistant to the President

ELD/spr