

Being Available To Christmas

December 14, 2025

Luke 2

No. 2

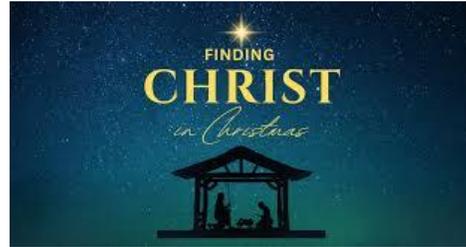
We are currently preparing our hearts for Christmas.

Christmas is the action of God to demonstrate His love to humankind.

We began with "Understanding Christmas."

Understanding is the basis of enjoying something.

Once we understand Christmas, we now need to make ourselves available to Christmas.



I love our dictionary. I wanted a precise meaning of the word "availability."

And of course I got, to make oneself available.

Okay,

So what is it to make oneself available?

To avail oneself.

In one sense it means to use or take advantage of.

I think that's a good word when it comes to Christmas.

After all,

We avail ourselves to many things, don't we?

- Coupons for the store
- Resources provided for a need

Counseling, a loan, buy one get one free!

So,

When you avail yourself to Christmas, you attain the benefit of it.

Now,

It becomes a greater celebration.

I'm talking, of course, about being available to the true meaning of Christmas.

When you truly understand Christmas it will still not be the greatest Christmas, but that's ok. The greatest Christmas is the one we are going to talk about today. But yours can be the second greatest one.

Lu 2 Caesar August sent out a mandate that everyone must return to the place of their birth to register for a census.

KJV says they were going to be taxed.

v.4 *Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,*

v.5 *in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.*

Remember the prophecy?

Is 7:14 the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.
(God with us)

v.6 *While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.*

v.7 *And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

Now,

Who, in this story, do you think did not avail himself to Christmas?

I would say the innkeeper.

No availability because no understanding of what was happening.

I.e.

He didn't see the Christ-child as the new born King, but only as a baby being born, like any other.

Mistakes about Christ come in two categories today:

1. Jesus is like any other man, even a good man
2. Jesus is not worth consideration

But for those who make themselves available to Christmas, you see Him in a different way.

You see His uniqueness.

I want to give you four ways Jesus is unique from all other religious leaders and people.

1. He was unique in His person

- His name – Emmanuel, God with us Mt 1:23
- He from eternity *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* Jn 1:1
- The Jews sought to kill Him for making Himself equal with God. Jn 5:18
- He existed in the form of God but laid aside His deity and lived like a man. Phi 2:5-7

2. He was unique in His purpose

- He came to save people from their sins Mt 1:21
- Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household Acts 16:31
- You were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ. I Pe 1:19

He didn't come to bring peace among men to the world but to bring peace between men and God.

3. He was the first to conquer death

People have been dying since sin entered the world for that was its consequence. Some died and were raised but only to die again.

- But Jesus was raised to eternity.

(I am) the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades. Rev 1:18

- Jesus became a man so He could experience death and defeat the one responsible for it.

Heb 2:14 ...through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

Death is man's number one enemy but now this enemy has been defeated by Jesus Christ.

4. Jesus offers us eternal life with Him

- Jesus said to a woman at a well, I have water that you do not know of.

"The water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life." Jn 4:14

Jesus said to Martha;

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,

- Paul the Apostle commented:

For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. I Cor 15:22

This is a sample of the meaning of Christmas.

It begins with understanding but then one must take that understanding make yourself available to it.

Ie.

Take advantage of it; benefit from it, like you would a two for one sale. Don't let the meaning of Christmas slip by without embracing it and its true meaning..

And this is where we will pick it up next time.

"Embracing Christmas"