

INTRODUCTION

- * Over the past four weeks of the Advent Season, we have considered The Prophecy of His Coming, The Place of His Coming, The Proclamation of His, The Paradox of His Coming, and last night - The Purpose of His Coming.
- * As a whole throughout those reflections, we have seen that the Incarnation of the Messiah was a Planned Event! In fact, as we saw at the beginning of our study of Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians the plan existed before the creation of the world!
- * For many, Christmas has been associated - since childhood - with getting presents. Yet, when you become an adult (or generally, old enough to begin giving the presents) you begin to realize that there is another association that is to be made at this time ... the cost of giving the presents!
- * This whole tradition of gift-giving was meant to remind us of the special gift that we were given two-thousand years ago. Yet, our materialistic, greedy minds have overshadowed the true meaning of this special day - a day when God presented us with an unequalled, eternal gift.
- * Yet, this special gift did not come without a cost. Rather, it is when you consider the price that was paid in order for you to have this gift that you begin to truly place the value upon it that it rightly deserves!

INSTRUCTION

I. THE GREATNESS OF THE GIFT

- A. Our S _____ (cf. Ephesians 2:8-9; John 3:16-17; Romans 6:23; 5:15-21)
- B. Our R _____ (cf. Romans 3:21-26; Ephesians 1:7; Titus 2:14; 1 John 2:2)
- C. Our A _____ (cf. Galatians 4:4-7; Romans 8:14-17; John 1:12)

II. THE GREATNESS OF THE COST

A. Christ's C _____ (cf. Philippians 2:5-8; John 1:1-3,14)

1. HIS N _____

- * His Being (cf. Luke 8:41; 11:13; 16:14, 23; Acts 2:30; 16:20,37; 17:24)
- * He Emptied Himself (cf. Romans 4:14; 1 Cor 1:17; 9:15; 2 Cor 9:3)

2. HIS S _____ (cf. Rom 1:23; 5:14; 6:5; 8:3; Rev 9:7; cf. John 1:14)

3. HIS H _____ (cf. Matt 18:4; 23:12; 2 Cor 11:7; 12:21; Phil 4:12; James 4:10; 1 Pet 5:6)

B. Christ's R _____ (cf. John 1:10-12)

1. BY THE WORLD

2. BY ISRAEL

3. BY HIS DISCIPLES (cf. Mt 26:45)

C. Christ's C _____ (cf. John 19:10-11,16; Matt 27:27-31,37-44)

D. Christ's D _____ (2 Cor 5:21; Isaiah 53:5-6)

E. Christ's S _____ (cf. Matt 27:46; Mark 15:34; Psalm 22:1; Isaiah 53:10)

INTROSPECTION

- * Have you accepted the FREE GIFT - Of Salvation, Redemption and Adoption - that God has offered you?
- * If you have, how have you valued that gift? Have you valued it according to the greatness of the cost?
- * What are you doing with the gift? Are you sharing it with others? We reveal how important something is to us, by how we want to talk about it with others!
- * Is there a need to change the way you think and therefore the way you act?