

## CHRISTMAS WAS GOD'S IDEA!

John 1:1-17

INTRODUCTION: Today is a very special day in our church. Today we will be filling Christmas Shoe Boxes that we will be sending to Samaritan's Purse and they will be sending them along with gospel tracts to boys and girls around the world. The Christmas story is told in two parts. Both parts are told to bring us hope, encouragement and help. One offers these things in time and the other story offers hope for eternity. The first story is of Santa Claus, a man dressed in red who delivers toys to everyone around the world in 24 hours. The second story tells of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ: Luke 2:8-16. The story began way back in the Garden of Eden. The story of our ancestors needing help and us needing help to come back into right relationship with our heavenly Father is the unabridged Christmas story.

John 1:15-16. Grace and truth not only describe our Lord Jesus but also let us know what we need today. Our text for today, John 1:1-2 starts with three times the title "God." Christmas is God's doing!

### I. GOD'S PLAN!

God designed His plan for Christmas to bring His crowning creation out of their hiding, out of their sin, and back to relationship with Himself. Isaiah 9:1-3: the fulfillment of that prophecy is found in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ: Matthew 4:12-17. Today the world chases after the gifts, food, and sports games of the Christmas season. Mark 8:36. In the Garden of Eden God did not overlook Adam and Eve's sin and He will not overlook our sin either. However God did send His light into this dark world: John 11:23-25; John 8:12.

### II. GOD DELIVERED HIS PROMISE!

Over the centuries God has given us many precious promises—and He has kept everyone of them. I don't know of anyone who honestly sought the Lord who did not find the Lord. Isaiah 9:6-7; Isaiah 7:14. Notice in the name Immanuel God is once again walking with His people. Immanuel means "God with us." What a Christmas gift: to be restored to our Creator God and to be able to walk with Him all the days of our lives and right on into eternity. The Maker of Christmas designed the plan to restore mankind to Himself and He has delivered on that plan.

### III. GOD DISPATCHED HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON!

Way back in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve were hiding from God; God killed the first animals to cover their nakedness and to have the blood of the animals cover their sin. All through the Old Testament the blood of animals was offered as a sacrifice for the sins of mankind. The promise from Genesis 3:14-15 was fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ: John 1:1-5; John 1:9-14. The Christmas story is told us in Matthew 1:18-23. The Name Jesus means "Jehovah saves!" Galatians 4:4-7. Our blessed Lord Jesus said these words: John 3:16-21. Christmas is the story of God taking on flesh in order to die for our sins. God did it. He arranged it. He designed the plan and He delivered on the promise! Today Jesus offers you total forgiveness for all your sin, to walk with you every day, and to make you right before your Creator God. But we must receive God's greatest Christmas gift!