

## Seeing Christ in Christmas

Hebrews 1: 1-4

We are entering the busiest time of the year. People are going here and there in search of gifts, heading to various places, all in a rush. The Christmas season has become so commercialized and busy that people seem to have forgotten the reason for the season. In fact some deny any association of Christmas with the Christ child. They would be pleased to remove Christ from Christmas and the world altogether.

The world may want Him removed from Christmas, public places, our schools, and their homes, but that is impossible. They may deny His existence and choose not to honor Him, but that doesn't change the fact that He is Lord! Had there been no Christ, there would be no Christmas. Had there been no Christ, we would not be here today. It would be easier to remove the salt from the oceans, the wetness from the rain, or the brightness from the sun than to remove Christ from the world. He is Christmas; He is Creator; He is Lord of all! This text deals with the revelation of Christ to men. There has always been a witness to the person of Jesus Christ.

As we move through the coming weeks, seek to find more of Him in your life. I want to examine the [truths](#) of the text as we consider: [Seeing Christ in Christmas](#).

**I. The Previous Mystery** (1) – [God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets](#). The Lord has always revealed Himself to men. Before Christ's birth, this was through progressive revelation. There was much about the Lord that men did not know. He promised the Messiah would come and they lived in anticipation of that day. Notice:

**A. The Beauty of the Mystery** – We find that God revealed Himself and spoke to men. The Bible teaches that He walked with Adam in the cool of the day. Enoch walked with God. Abraham was known as the friend of God. Even though man hadn't received the full revelation of Christ, God still desired to speak to them and fellowship with them.

- As we consider the blessings of Christmas, we ought to be thankful that the God of heaven is mindful of sinful men. He created us from the dust of the earth and breathed life into a living soul. He is not obligated to fellowship with us, but He does. God loves us enough that He wants all to come to Him in repentance and become a part of His family. I am glad He came and spoke to me!

**B. The Bounty of the Mystery** (1) – God spoke at [sundry times and in divers manners](#). Time after time throughout the history of men, God spoke to them. He spoke to Abraham in the land of Ur about a coming nation. He spoke to Moses in the wilderness of Horeb about deliverance. He spoke to Elijah on the mountain top about repentance for Israel. He spoke to the prophets about a coming King. He spoke to men in many ways. He spoke to Joseph and Samuel in their dreams; He spoke to Isaiah in a vision; He spoke to Moses from the burning bush; He spoke to Elijah in a still small voice.

- God was faithful down through the ages to speak to men and lead them unto Himself. Isn't it amazing that He continued to speak to men? Abraham lied in Egypt, Moses smote the rock, David committed adultery, Jonah rebelled, Jeremiah doubted and wanted to quit and yet God continued to speak to the hearts of men. Through all of their failures God never abandoned mankind. Even in the darkness of our day He continues to speak!

**C. The Boundary of the Mystery** (1) – [God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets](#). In the OT days, God spoke to the people through the prophets; they were His representative to men. The priest was man's representative to God. The common man never enjoyed the glory of God. He sent His word through the prophet and the high priest was the only one who had access to the Holy of Holies where the Lord dwelt.

- Many times there was no word from God. Samuel ministered in a time when a word from God was precious; there was no open vision. There were 400 silent years from Malachi to the time when Gabriel spoke to Zacharias.

- We can rejoice that we live on this side of Bethlehem and Calvary. The revelation of God has been fulfilled. The veil of the Temple has been rent in two. Every born again believer can approach the throne of grace. We have access to God. As you ponder Christmas, be thankful for a personal Savior, the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit that dwells within your heart. I don't have to depend on a prophet or priest; I can go to my Savior in prayer.

**II. The Present Message** (2) – [Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds](#). Today we find ourselves on this side of Calvary. The Lord paid our sin debt and salvation has been secured. The present message will never change. Jesus is what men need. He is their only hope for redemption. All of the OT prophecy pointed to the cross. It is:

**A. A Timely Message** (2) – God speaks in [these last days](#) through His Son. We now live in the dispensation of grace. We live in a day when grace is being extended to the lost. When these days have ended judgment will come.

- The world needs to hear the message of the cross and judgment of sin. This is a message that is as old as time, but it is still relevant for our day. Christ is man's only hope. He is the only way of salvation. Men may reject the Lord, but they will one day stand before Him in judgment. We must continue to stand for Christ and proclaim the gospel to a lost and dying world.

**B. A Trusted Message** – [Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son](#). The Christmas story and the gospel of Christ is not merely a fairy tale or man's imagination. On that glorious night so many years ago the Word became flesh and dwelt among men. God had used prophets and angels before, but now God came down to men.

- Who better to proclaim the truth of God than God Himself? The message we preach today has been revealed through the Son of God. If man wants to know God, he must know Christ. To deny Christ is to deny God and His plan of redemption. Countless souls have believed on the Lord and found forgiveness through Him.

- The message of Jesus is the only one worthy to be told. It is the only means of salvation. He is the only way to life eternal. What a message, the message of Christ. I pray you have responded to the Lord and trusted His saving grace.

**C. A Triumphant Message** (2b) – [whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds](#). Upon the cross Jesus fully satisfied the debt of sin. It was there He bridged the gap sin had caused. When He cried, "[It is finished](#)," He pleased the Father. He alone was worthy to pay our debt and He alone is worthy to be heir of all things.

- We do not preach a message of a dead prophet, but one of a triumphant, risen Lord. The Gospel is a message of power and hope. It was there on the cross that Jesus secured our salvation. He is Lord of all and that will never be challenged or changed! [This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased](#).

**III. The Promised Messiah** (3-4) – The previous mystery looked forward to Christ and the present message looks back at Christ. His sacrifice on the cross is the focal point of history. It was that single event that stands as the most prominent event of all time. Let's take a moment to consider the Messiah that was revealed, He who is Lord and Savior.

**A. His Person** (3a) – *Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person.* Jesus came as a humble babe in a lowly manger, but He was no ordinary child. This was God in the flesh. He is the very essence of God. He dwelt with God in heaven, possessing all the glory that God has. He laid aside that glory to be robed in flesh as He came to earth. While upon the earth He lived a holy, sinless life. He came to reveal God to men and to live the life we never could. He revealed the glory, the holiness, the compassion, the very being of God.

- Never has a life so touched and changed men as the life of Jesus. The One who died upon the cross was fully God and fully man.

**B. His Power** (3b) – *and upholding all things by the word of his power.* He is the Lord of power, simply by speaking the word. I am reminded of Him speaking peace, be still and the sea and winds were calmed, of His simply speaking and the sick were healed, and of His calling for Lazarus and at the mention of his name he lived again. We serve the Lord of power.

- The world had been gripped by the hold of sin and Jesus defeated Satan as He hung upon the cross. It was there He conquered the sin that plagued man. As He rose from the grave He conquered death and hell. The world we know and enjoy was created by His word. Child of God we have much to rejoice in because of the power of our Lord. We are no celebrating a weak and helpless child, but the Lord who upholds all things by the word of His power.

**C. His Pardon** (3c) – *when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.* Jesus accomplished what we never could: redemption for our souls. It was there that He alone became our sacrifice, paid our debt, and secured our salvation. He alone was worthy to pardon our sin. Were it not for Jesus we would have no hope.

- Providing for our salvation would've been enough, but He continues to intercede on our behalf today. He is seated at the right hand of God as our mediator and intercessor. He serves as our High Priest making intercession for us and defends us against the accusations of the adversary.

**D. His Preeminence** (4) – *Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.* The world may continue to deny His existence and deity, but that doesn't alter who He is. He is King of kings and Lord of lords. He is the Savior and Redeemer of humanity. He came as the sacrificial Lamb, but will return in great power as the Lion of Judah. All will recognize Him and proclaim Him Lord of all. *Acts 4:12 – Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

Phil.2:9-11 – Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: <sup>[10]</sup> That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; <sup>[11]</sup> And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. That name belongs to the Christ, born of a virgin womb, laid in Bethlehem's manger, Savior of the world!

**Conclusion:** I pray you will see Him as never before in these days. Keep Him near to your heart. He is our Hope, our Guide, and our Security. If you don't know Christ, you don't know Christmas. In fact, you can't know peace and love apart from Him. He is your only hope for salvation and eternal life. Come to Him as He calls for you in salvation!