

I RECEIVE
Because It's Christmas – Part 1 of 3

IMPORTANT QUESTION: What do I have to **BELIEVE** in order to be a Christian?

BETTER QUESTION: If the Christian Biblical version of Christmas is true, is it **GOOD** for our culture?

“...I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people.” Luke 2:10b

“The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it.” Luke 16:16

“1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. 3 Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write and orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, 4 so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.” Luke 1:1-4

“20 ... ‘Friend, your sins are forgiven.’ 21 ‘...Who can forgive sins but God alone?’ 23 ‘Which is easier to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Get up and walk?’ 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins...’ He said to the paralyzed man, ‘I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.’ Luke 5:20-24

SIN: **OFFENDING** an almighty invisible God that has a **STANDARD** none of us can meet.

“27 ‘Follow me... 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.’” Luke 5:27b, 32

“27 But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, 28 bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. 33 And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? 35 But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back...and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. 36 Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” Luke 5:27-28, 33, 35-36

“Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11

BOTTOM LINE: God came to meet our greatest need. You and I need a **SAVIOR**.

“10...There is no one righteous, not even one...23...for all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God...” Romans 3:10, 23

“...I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people.” Luke 2:10b

“Just as the Son of Man, did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28