

# The Spirit Of Christmas

P1 - How To Have a Merry Christmas

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## LUKE 2:14

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

## INTRODUCTION

Merry Christmas comes from the Presence of God in our lives. This is the enduring gift we receive thru Christ, after all the shopping and wrapping and unwrapping, eating and watching Christmas movies, the event is over there can be an empty feeling of "is that all there is?" Merry Christmas is about a relationship with God not an event. Cannot meet spiritual need with material things. Merry Christmas comes from the Presence not the "presents."

As I read this passage, I observed three things that the Angel emphasized in the announcement of the Virgin Birth of Christ.

## NUMBER 1. Worship. "The Highest heaven, the third heaven."

A. The Angels know worship goes on in heaven.

### REVELATION 4:10-11

the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying: <sup>11</sup> "You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created."

### 1 CHRONICLES 16:28-29

Give to the Lord, O families of the peoples, Give to the Lord glory and strength. <sup>29</sup> Give to the Lord the glory *due* His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness!

B. Worship is the privilege of true sons and daughters of God.

### JOHN 4:23-24

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

<sup>24</sup> God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

- C. Worship is the key to quenching our spiritual thirst, it is how we drink from the well.
- D. Wise men came to worship Him, opened treasure and gave.

**MATTHEW 2:10-11**

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. <sup>11</sup> And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

- E. True Worshipers have learned the path to God's Presence.

**PSALMS 95:6**

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

- F. Thanksgiving - gratitude, Praise - celebration, Worship - adoration, the Embrace. Focuses on me. Praise on WHAT He did. Worship on Who He Is.

## NUMBER 2. Peace On Earth. "The word means to be reconciled, set at one again."

- A. Four reasons God had not to reconcile. Without Strength, Ungodly Sinners, Enemies.

**ROMANS 5:1-2**

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have<sup>[a]</sup> peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup> through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

**ROMANS 5:6-10**

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. <sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. <sup>10</sup> For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

- B. God has forgiven and made us one with Himself again.

**COLOSSIANS 1:19-23**

For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell, <sup>20</sup> and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or

things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. <sup>21</sup> And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled <sup>22</sup> in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight— <sup>23</sup> if indeed you continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and are not moved away from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister.

### **1 CORINTHIANS 6:17**

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit *with Him*.

- C. Be reconciled to one another. Blessed are peacemakers they are the children of God.

### **JAMES 3:17-18**

But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup> Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

### **HEBREWS 12:14**

Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

### **ROMANS 12:18**

If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

NUMBER 3. The Good Will of God. Another Key to God's Presence.

- A. God is working out something good in your life.

### **ROMANS 8:28**

And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to *His* purpose.

### **PHILIPPIANS 2:13**

for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure.

- B. Joseph, we may not always understand the journey, but if we stay faithful it will result in something for our ultimate good.

### **GENESIS 50:20**

But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive.

C. Surrender our life, renew our minds and we will experience His Good Will which is acceptable and perfect.

**ROMANS 12:1-2**

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is your reasonable service.* <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Make these three things priority and you will have Merry Christmas all year long.