

CELEBRATING THE SAVIOR

Luke NLV 2: ⁹The angel of the Lord came to them. The shining-greatness of the Lord shone around them. They were very much afraid. ¹⁰The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. See! I bring you good news of great joy which is for all people. ¹¹Today, One Who saves from the punishment of sin has been born in the city of David. He is Christ the Lord.

1 Thessalonians NIV 5: ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

THREE REASONS WE CELEBRATE CHRIST:

1. PROPITIATION

1 John 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world

Propitiation: The act of appeasing wrath, Jesus satisfied the wrath of God that was against us, (penalty of burning in hell)

2. REDEMPTION

Colossians 1:¹²giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption through His blood,^(c) the forgiveness of sins.

Redemptions: Repurchase of captured goods or prisoners; the act of procuring the deliverance of persons or things from the possession and power of captors by the payment of an equivalent; ransom;

3. RECONCILIATION

Romans 5: ¹⁰For 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. ¹¹And not only *that*, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

Reconciliation: God brings man into a completely changed relationship with Himself- from enmity and hostility and alienation to friendship and harmony and fellowship. Notice that the reconciliation is a one-way act of God toward man. (God did it all!)