



“It may be unpopular to trespass on popular images associated with the Christ’s birth and to debunk myths, but it is theologically dangerous to allow the account of his birth to be hijacked by fiction. Christmas fables lure us to seasonal sentimentality...The sentimental Christmas may be popular as a religious holiday for some because it can come off as celebrating the birth of a helpless baby. Jesus lies in a manger to be gazed upon and adored, but not to be heard and heeded. A speechless babe wrapped tightly in swaddling cloths seems more obliging in allowing people to tailor their religious beliefs however they see fit.” – David Garland

“The Christmas message rests on the staggering fact that the child in the manger was-God.” – J.I. Packer

“But this is only half the story.” – J.I. Packer

“But you, O Bethlehem, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from old, from ancient days.” – Micah 5:2

“The point is that through the birth of the Messiah God extends his favor to people who have done nothing to deserve it; and he

graciously grants them peace. Peace expresses the nature of salvation as the restoration of good relations between God and sinful people and the consequent reception of his blessings.”

– Howard Marshall

“Imagine what joy it must have been to sing in that angelic choir. They were singing in a new venue, praising God on earth as they had always done in heaven. Imagine what joy they had in going out in the middle of the night and scaring people half to death with the glory of God. They were also singing in a new key, praising God for his grace to sinners. Imagine what joy they had in worshipping the newborn Christ and saying ‘Glory to God.’ The Christmas angels saw this glory and revealed it to the shepherds so that we could see it too.”

– Phil Ryken

“When I look in the manger, I come away shaken as I realize again that he was born to pay the unbearable penalty for my sins.”

– William Smith

“He had to be both God and man to save us sinners. He had to be God because only God could save us. He had to become man because the work of salvation had to be performed by a human being for human beings. If he had not become one of us, he could not have died in our place. To perform these saving works, he had to become one of us.”

– Robert Peterson

“The Christmas message is that there is hope for a ruined humanity-hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory-because at the Father’s will Jesus Christ became poor and was born in a stable so that thirty years later he might hang on a cross. It is the most wonderful message that the world has ever heard, or will hear.” – J.I. Packer