

Life In The Body

News and Notes for the :
Shelbyville
Church of Christ

December 22, 2019

Be Filled With Joy ... The Lord Has Come

I think I am safe to say that the song “*Joy to the World*” is a favorite among all of us any time of the year. It certainly is one of my favorites. “*Joy to the world, the Lord is come! ... Repeat the sounding joy!*” First published in 1719, Isaac Watts’ lyrics teamed with music attributed to Handel have produced the most published Christmas hymn in North America. It might be difficult to find any Christmas album that did not include this song. And rightly so.

After millenniums of promise and hope and expectation for a coming Messiah through whom the entire world would be blessed (*Genesis 12.3*), the time had finally come! While John the Baptist was still in his mother’s womb, he leapt for joy in anticipation of the coming of Jesus (*Luke 1.44*)! When the angel of the Lord announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds, the angel said, “*Do not be afraid. I will bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people*” (*Luke 2.10*). 2000 plus years later we are still being filled with joy when we think of the birth of Jesus.

Why? The answer is obvious, isn’t it? The depth of joy Jesus brought to the world was unlike anything known before. Before Jesus, the forgiveness of sins was merely a shadow, a promise to be fulfilled in the future, a distant hope. The Old Testament

Law itself was but a “*shadow of good things to come instead of the true form of these realities*” (Hebrews 10.1). At its best, hope was always for better things yet to come.

But in Jesus, that kind of hope was suddenly transformed into an ever-present reality. No more wishful thinking. Although not as expected, the Savior has come (*Matthew 1.21*). The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world is finally here (*John 1.29*) to seek and save the lost (*Luke 19.10*). The blood he shed on the cross not only forgives our sins initially (*Ephesians 1.7, Revelation 1.5, Romans 6.3-4*), it also continually forgives our sins as we walk in the light (*1 John 1.7*). In Jesus, light and life have come (*John 1.4*). Only Jesus can show us the way to the Father (*John 14.6*).

And that, my friends, is the source of inexpressible joy. In the words of Bernard of Clairvaux, “*Jesus, the very thought of thee, with sweetness fills the breast, o hope of every contrite heart, o joy of all the meek ... Jesus, our only joy be thou, as thou our prize wilt be; Jesus, be thou our glory now, and through eternity.*”

Because Jesus has come we triumphantly sing, “*I’ve got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart ... I’ve got the peace that passes understanding down in my heart, down in my heart to stay ... and if the devil doesn’t like it he can sit on a tack!*”

— Joe Chesser

God Sent Us a Savior

***Give him the name Jesus, because he
will save his people from their sins.***

— Matthew 1:21

An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream, telling him to take Mary home as his wife. “She will give birth to a son,” said the angel, “and you are to give him the name Jesus [the Lord saves, or Savior] because he will save his people from their sins.”

If our greatest need were health,
God would have sent a physician.

If our greatest need were money,

God would have sent a financial advisor.
If our greatest need were education,
God would have sent a teacher.
If our greatest need were guidance,
God would have sent a mentor.
If our greatest need were advice,
God would have sent a counselor.
But since our greatest need is salvation, God sent a Savior.

***There are a lot of things you can do without.
Your Savior isn't one of them.***

– Joe Barnett

Caring .. Even in Death

When Jesus then saw His mother, and the disciple whom He loved standing nearby, He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!" Then He said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" From that hour that hour the disciple took her into his own household.

John 19:26-27

Jesus uttered seven things while hanging on the cross. Even in death, He was teaching us how to live and how to die. As Jesus was dying, He was thinking about those he would leave behind. He made arrangements for those would miss Him and need Him. Separation is always painful, but a little better when we prepare. As we reach the end of our lives, let's remember the needs of those we will leave behind. That's love. That's the Jesus style. – D. Grubb

Pride Packages For Soldiers: We rotate the items that we bring in so there will be a variety of things available for Pat to send to our soldiers. For the next two weeks we'll be bringing: Flavoring packets for water, Rice Krispy Treats, Beef Jerky, Slim Jims, tuna packets, little containers of fruit in pull tab cans (plastic containers of fruit seem to get broken in shipping), Dried fruit, Little containers of spaghetti O's in pull tab cans, Tums

Birthdays : Delores Crutcher December 25

Reading : **Luke 1: 20**

NEXT WEEK : (December 29, 2019)

Song Leader : Stan

Scripture Reader : Butch

Table & Announcements : Tim

Prayer List : .

Ruby Miller : Sis. Ruby remains in the bounce-back unit at the Manor while her bones heal and appears to be doing well.

Mary Smith : Sis. Mary is also in the bounce-back unit at the Manor while she recovers from a fall and a broken hip.

Susan Bales : Rosanne's mother is suffering such severe back pain that it is inhibiting her ability to walk.

Jim Jarnigan : Greg's cousin Jim has been diagnosed with a rare form of leukemia. Since little is known about this type of leukemia they are unsure how to proceed. Jim also has a blood clot in his leg so he is having severe mobility issues.

Doris Jarnigan : Jim's wife is going through physical therapy as she recovers from literally being run over by a truck.

Ruby Bradd : The 3 yr old daughter of Stephen & Ranae is battling a very aggressive form of cancer. She has finished the full 20 weeks of chemotherapy at Springfield, but after the first of the year she will start receiving a different kind of chemo to be given in Chicago and immunotherapy later in the year.

Wayne : Staph infection in his leg and insufficient circulation.

Those with ongoing need of prayer :

Those with age related issues :

Marge, Ruby, Mary, Doris, Delores, Betty, Pete & Hazel,

Others with ongoing issues :

Doris Faulkner : Rm. 603 in Alzheimer's unit at the Manor.

Madonna : Her biweekly chemo will continue indefinitely.

Brenda Stevens : Ongoing severe painful back issues

Butch Reynolds : _Heart condition and back issues

Jerry Rankin : Heart Issues

Glenda Hyneman : Multiple recurring issues, some serious

Dan Luidhardt : Wayne's friend has severe kidney failure due to diabetes. His condition is deteriorating.

*** Each day as you pray for those on this list,
always include our congregation and her elders**

*Visitors are always welcomed.
We invite you to visit our assemblies.*

Schedule of Services :

Sunday Morning : Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:20 a.m.

Sunday Evening : Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday : Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



Ya'll Come !