

"A Race To BE WON IN 2021"



DECEMBER 2021

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR



Pastor & Mrs. C
"Old-Fashioned
Sunday"



The True Meaning of Christmas



Introduction: Just as the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is not about Easter bunnies, chocolate candy and painted chicken eggs, Christmas is not about an overweight man who likes to get stuck in a chimney, and can grant your children their every wish.

It's not about presents and lights and trees.

It's not even about family and loved ones, or dinners and football games.

What does the Bible teach about Christmas?

FIRST: CHRISTMAS IS THE FULFILLMENT OF SCRIPTURE.

ISAIAH 7:14

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

In *Matthew 1:22-23*, "Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled..."

The birth of Christ was a sign given to reveal that this was no ordinary birth, but a birth that was unique. There would never be another birth like it this birth that brought forth Immanuel which means, "God with us."

1 Timothy 3:16, "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh ..."

SECOND: CHRISTMAS IS THE ARRIVAL OF THE SAVIOUR.

LUKE 2:10-11

"... I bring you good tidings of great joy ... For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

From *Genesis 3:15* until the day of the arrival of Christ in Bethlehem, it was always about the arrival of the One and only Saviour.

1 Timothy 1:15, "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners ..."

Just like God's plan of the virgin birth as Christ, so that all could be born again, it is God's greatest desire for lost sinners to come to Christ and trust Him as personal Saviour.

THIRD: CHRISTMAS IS THE ANSWER TO PEACE AND SATISFACTION.

ISAIAH 9:6

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Why is his birth filled with peace?

- 1. Because He is wonderful in His birth.** There is no getting away from the birth of Christ. Christmas carols our song from one end of the earth to the other all secular history dates from his birth every time even an atheist writes a check or looks at a date he or she is reminded of the birth of Christ.
- 2. Because He is wonderful in His life.** His life was sinless, useful, and totally unselfish. He was unstained by sin. His most hateful enemies could not bring one charge against Him, so they just began to make up lies.
- 3. Because He is wonderful in His works.** He was patient, loving and kind. He healed the sick and opened the eyes of the blind. He helped thousands and comforted the

Continued



Wishing You a Merry Christmas. —Pastor

Lest We Forget

The Erskine File



If Capt. Graves B. Erskine had not survived the stormy trip across the Atlantic to return the Unknown Soldier to America, the nation would have lost a multi-war Marine Corps leader. His service record in brief:

Mexican Border War: Saw action with the Louisiana National Guard.
World War I: Platoon leader who fought at Chateau-Thierry, Belleau Wood, Boureschesnes and Soissons; wounded twice and received the Silver Star.

1928: Assigned to Nicaragua with the 2nd Marine Brigade and the Nicaragua National Guard Detachment; led jungle operations against organized bandits. Served in Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

World War II: Promoted to brigadier general; highly decorated for combat leadership at Saipan, Tinian, the Marianas and Iwo Jima. Later served as adviser for the Hollywood film "Sands of Iwo Jima."

The Fall Of America

Proverbs 16:18, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."



Dr. Greg Neal

Often this verse is used in the life of a Christian, and it certainly applies. This verse often has been used in the life of an individual, and it certainly applies. It can even be used in the application of a church or a group of people, and it certainly applies; but this verse can also apply to a nation or to a people. Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

I am thankful that I am an American. I am certainly thankful for all of those who have gone before me and made it possible for me to enjoy the freedoms that I do have. I believe that the greatest nation on the face of the planet is the United States of America. We have a great, great nation; we know it, and that is part of the problem. We, as a nation, think that America has gotten to where she is because of us. We, as Americans, think we are free because of what we have done. We think we are a mighty nation because of who we are. We think that we have the things that we have, the freedoms that we enjoy--the birthright as Americans--just because we are superior people. We are smarter than everyone else. We are better than everyone else. We, as Americans, have captured this sense of entitlement. We are who we are because that is just the way it is supposed to be.

If we study American history--not the history that the government schools tells us exists--if we were to study the actual events that took place in our country, we would know that our nation was founded as a Christian nation. We would know that our nation was founded not just by good men, but by godly men. We would know that the hand of God was in the founding of this nation and that this nation has become a mighty nation because of the plan of God.

brokenhearted. He forgave everyone who came to Him for forgiveness.

4. **Because He is wonderful in His words.** *John 7:46, "... Never man spake like this man."* Whether in Shakespeare's plays or Lincoln's speeches, never did anyone speak as Jesus.
5. **Because He is wonderful in His death.** The weight of the world's sin was upon Him. Never was there a death like His, or ever will be another. He willingly and lovingly died for us.
6. **Because He is wonderful in His Resurrection.** Jesus conquered death by rising again. Because He arose, He will come again and restore the earth as it was meant to be. The animals will be at peace. The wolf and the lamb will dwell together.

FOURTH CHRISTMAS IS THE SHARING OF A STAR.

MATTHEW 2:2

"Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east ..."

Notice "his star": A star is referred to as a messenger in *Revelation Chapter 1*. We are to be messengers sharing the wonderful story of the birth of Christ. That star is a symbol of the Gospel going from east to west and winding up in Israel. One day the Gospel message will be received by the nation of Israel.

Conclusion: Listen to me, do not turn a blind eye to Christmas. The term "turning a blind eye" came from the Battle of Copenhagen in 1801. Admiral Horatio Nelson was sent a signal to discontinue action as the cannon balls hit all around him, and even struck the mast of his ship. Nelson was told by signal flag that he was to break off the attack. He pulled up his eyeglass to his blind eye that he had lost during a previous battle and said, "I don't see it." Reader, don't turn a blind eye to the only hope of salvation today. Turn to Christ.

Prayer of Salvation

If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven?

If not, would you be willing to pray this prayer with me?

'Dear Jesus, I'm asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I'm trusting you, Jesus, as my Saviour. Thank you for saving me. Amen.' (Romans 10:9 and 10:13)



Prayer of Service

'Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?' (Acts 9:6)

EVERYBODY KNOWS 40 IS THE NEW 30, BUT THE POLICE OFFICER WHO GAVE ME A SPEEDING TICKET COULDN'T BE CONVINCED.

Heritage Highlanders December 2021 Schedule



Saturday December 3

Christmas Craft

Saturday December 10

Christmas Cookies

Proverbs 31:13

Genesis 18:6

Saturday December 17

Giving

Saturday December 24

Christmas Party

Saturday December 31

Soulwinning

II Corinthians 9:7

Psalms 100:2

John 3:16

I WAKE UP EARLY ON BLACK FRIDAY, SO I CAN GET ONLINE AND WATCH VIDEOS OF SHOPPERS BRAWLING.

Separation

II Cor. 6:14-17



Dr. Bob Gray

Separation from worldliness is not an end in itself; it is a means to an end. Separation is refraining from doing that which keeps us from doing what God intended for us to do. Separation is fixing the car, not so it can sit attractively in the garage, but so it can run and be useful. Separation is putting yourself into a position so you can do what God wants you to do. If all you do is dot every fundamental j and cross every fundamental t, and you do nothing of a positive nature for Christ, then God calls you a wicked and unprofitable servant.

Ladies who do not wear shorts, pants, mini-skirts or slits in their dresses can still be considered wicked and unprofitable servants, according to God. Men who do not wear long hair, drink, smoke, go to movies, rent movies, buy movies, or listen to bad music can still be considered wicked and unprofitable servants, according to God. If you never bring a profit to God, then you are a wicked person. Some of the most wicked Christians sit in Bible-believing churches; God says they are wicked because they will stand before God and be judged by their works, and they will stand empty handed. Being an independent, King-James Bible-only, separated, Baptist Christian does not preclude you from being deemed wicked and unprofitable to God.

Separation is not simply getting right with God. It is making yourself available to work with God to cause others to become right with God. Getting right with God is serving God. Separation only puts you in a position to be able to serve Him.

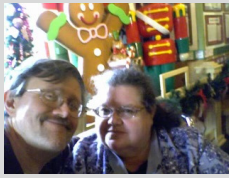
Something to 'CROW' about!

1. Heritage Baptist Church had someone saved every week in 2020.
2. The bus ministry is still active.
3. We are hosting the 8th Annual "Old-Time Religion" Conference in 2022.
4. Heritage Baptist Church never closed one time in 2020.
5. Heritage Baptist Church has not closed one time in 2021.
6. Heritage Baptist Church has had someone saved each week of 2021.



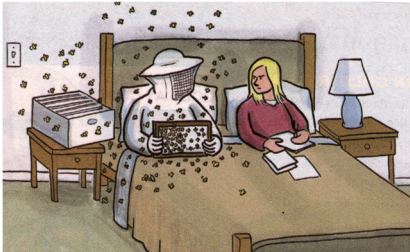
From Our Church Prayer List

1. Brittney Elliott
2. Sheila Spencer
3. Anita Miller
4. Michelle Lemons
5. Kevin McClain
6. Harold Cooper
7. Linda Sigstad
8. Carolyn Grindel
9. Don Tuck



Judy Kurpan, our dear friend, wife, mother and member of Heritage Baptist Church went to be with the Lord after battling COVID. Judy was saved and baptized at Heritage Baptist Church.

MY PARENTS RAISED ME AS AN ONLY CHILD, WHICH REALLY ANNOYED MY YOUNGER BROTHER.



"OH, BUT IT'S FINE FOR YOU TO GRADE PAPERS."



DAD, I'M SIXTEEN.
I ASKED FOR A
TOYOTA.

TOLD YA.



*"LEE, I'M GOING TO FORGO ALL THE
GOBBLEDYGOOK AND CUT STRAIGHT TO
THE RIGAMAROLE."*



From our Pastor's Wife ... Mrs. Vida Collingsworth The Trials Of Faith

Before going off to college, my pastor wisely said to me, 'Do not be surprised if, before you graduate, you face a trial (or trials).' Just days before leaving for college, my church went through a split. Oh, how my heart was saddened to see this occur—I loved all parties involved; but Jesus taught me through that trial to stand for the Man of God, and to stand for truth. It proved to be a very valuable lesson to this future pastor's wife!

Then, just months before graduating from Hyles-Anderson College (and while on my honeymoon), I had a reaction to medication that caused my mouth and the side of my face to be twisted. Dr. Streeter told me the medication caused a stroke. Here I was, a brand new bride, with only one semester left before I finished school, and my face was all twisted. To make matters worse, people were saying that my husband did it.

'Would my face stay like this?' I found I couldn't sing, and wondered how I would be able to do my student teaching. In my heart I wanted to hide, embarrassed by my physical appearance, and concerned that my wonderful husband was now saddled with more than he bargained for. It all seemed rather gloomy. What was I to do?

I had two choices: #1-to quit, and feel sorry for myself; or #2-to go on. I decided to go on. I continued to go soulwinning, and continued to attend church. I had to die to self. I could not allow myself to dwell on my physical appearance. I did not know if this condition would last or not. This truly was a trial like I had never known before, but it taught me to trust in the Lord more than ever—to rejoice in Him.



John R. Rice

The Family Altar
Deuteronomy 6:7

I suggest that the reading be in the King James Version of the Bible. So-called “modern language” versions are usually paraphrases and not very accurate and sometimes have liberal, inaccurate rendering. The King James Version is the Bible of the people. It has the most beautiful language. The idea that the language of the King James Version of the Bible is archaic, hard to understand, is rather silly. I taught Shakespeare to college freshmen and sophomores, and the language of Shakespeare is ten times more archaic and obsolete than is the King James Bible.

Enjoy the Bible. If Dad and Mother find it sweet and blessed, and if the family regularly prays for God to be with them in their devotions, they will find it the happiest time of the day. Visitors who come to our home have again and again remarked years later that the happiest memory of their visit was the family devotions.

Then we would pray in a circle around the table. I would begin the prayer, then each one would follow in his own way, asking God for His blessing, asking help for the chores and duties of the day, asking for healing for someone who was sick, asking for help to win some particular soul, asking for help in the school work. Tiny children who cannot read the Bible can be taught a little memorized prayer so they can have part, and soon they can pray from the heart.

The family altar is a time also to praise good deeds, to rebuke quarrels, to settle problems. Besides, it means there is such close contact between parents and children that any time during the day (and sometimes during the night) a child will feel free to come to Dad or Mother for more prayer, or for help about a burden, or to confess a sin. There is no “generation gap” in the family where the authority of Father and Mother is clearly recognized and enforced, and where they have family devotions together.

How long will devotions take? Often not more than fifteen or twenty minutes; but what a precious time together!



Dennis “Jr” Stotts was born on January 18th, 1968 in Marshalltown, Iowa. He attended school in Iowa where he spent most of his time drawing comics of school teachers. He later studied to receive his GED in Florida in 1987.

He was united in Holy Matrimony to Debbie Ann McNroy (or, as Dennis would call her, Deborah) on December the 8th, 1990. As a young adult, he trusted Christ as his Saviour and made a memorial of that salvation in 1993 under the preaching of Pastor Gerald B. Collingsworth.

His life will be forever cherished by his wife, Debbie, and his daughters: Ann and Melissa; his sons-in-law Chris Baker and Nicholas Frick; his grandchildren: Benjamin Baker, Sarah Baker, Samuel Baker, Charlotte Baker, AnnaBelle Frick, IsaBelle Frick, and Israel James Frick; his mother: Carla Nohrenberg, his father: Dennis Stotts, Sr.; and his younger brothers; Danny Stotts and Travis Nohrenberg. Dennis joins his granddaughter Alison and several miscarried children in Glory.

Dennis was an active member of Heritage Baptist Church. He always had a burden and passion for reaching those less fortunate than himself with the Gospel for Christ. He worked in the Teen Ministry, the Bookstore, and was constantly involved in the Bus Ministry in one way or another. He taught Junior Church for many years, sharing the gospel with children all over his community. He was a truck driver by trade and a fabricator by heart. He loved to tinker with cars and piece them together in imaginative ways. One of his proudest creations was a trackless train that he built from 55 gallon drums.

Dennis was always ready to play a prank or practical joke on his family and friends. He loved jokes and satirical prose. He was always ready with a big smile or a silly grin. He loved his family and his grandchildren were his life. He invested so much in the lives of his children and grandchildren. He was always concerned for and working toward the best for his family.

He was and will always be loved and forever missed.

Parmesan-Roasted Broccoli

Preheat oven to 425°. Trim the stalks of two 8-ounce broccoli crowns, removing any tough or dried exterior, then cut crowns into quarters from top to bottom. Drizzle with 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil; sprinkle all over, to taste, with salt, freshly ground black pepper, and red pepper flakes. Arrange broccoli on a parchment-lined rimmed baking sheet, then roast until crisp-tender, 10-12 minutes. Meanwhile, thinly slice 4 medium garlic cloves and toss with 1 teaspoon olive oil. Sprinkle the broccoli with garlic and roast until garlic is just beginning to turn golden around the edges, about 5 minutes. Sprinkle broccoli all over with 2 tablespoons freshly grated Parmigiano-Reggiano cheese and roast until cheese is melted and broccoli stalks are tender, 2-4 minutes. Toss with 1 teaspoon freshly grated lemon zest and serve.

Some food for thought ...or... Seed From The Silo!

Facebook Banning Christians but Allowing Sex Traffickers on Platform

While Facebook is known for cracking down on accounts linked to Christians and politically conservative individuals and groups, the platform is doing little to stop criminal organizations that use the networking site to profit off sex trafficking, said entertainment critic Ted Baehr...

Facebook employees sent numerous alerts to their bosses to report on human traffickers in the Middle East and armed groups in Ethiopia that are using the platform for sex trafficking and inciting violence against ethnic minorities, according to internal documents released by the Wall Street Journal in an investigative report.

Facebook was informed that a Mexican drug cartel was using the platform to recruit, train and pay hitmen; but the company didn't stop the cartel from posting on Facebook or Instagram, the documents show....

In the U.S., Facebook and other social media platforms use Section 230 of the U.S. Communications Decency Act to protect themselves from lawsuits over what users post online. One of the clauses of Section 230 states that what users say or write online is not akin to a publisher conveying the same message. However, the same clause that shields online platforms from liability is often used to ban conservative viewpoints.

-Anugrah Kumar, christianpost.com

DOJ Likening Concerned Parents to Domestic Terrorists

The U.S. Department of Justice is facing immense pushback for suggesting that parents opposing the teaching of controversial curriculum in public schools are akin to domestic terrorists.

On [October 4] U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland sent a memorandum to federal law enforcement agencies "directing the Federal Bureau of Investigations, working with each United States Attorney, to convene meetings...for addressing threats against school administrators, board members, teachers and staff."

The memo cites a "disturbing spike in harassment intimidation and threats of violence against school administrators, board members, teachers and staff" as the justification for a federal response.

However, many have noted that it's the parents who've often been harassed and intimidated....

...Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt sent a letter to Garland condemning the DOJ's actions that could silence parents who want to have a voice in their children's education.

"Biden's Department of Justice is weaponizing its resources against parents who dare to advocate for their children. This dangerous federal overreach imposes a chilling effect on free speech by criminalizing dissent....,"Schmitt said in a press release accompanying | his letter to Garland.

-Ryan Foley, christianpost

What Kind Of Seed Are **You** Sowing?

Communist Rules for Revolution

(In May of 1919 at Dusseldorf, Germany, the Allied Forces obtained a copy of some of the "Communists' Rules for Revolution." One hundred and two years later, the Reds are still following the rules. As you read the following: stop after each item and think about the present-day situation where you live-and all around our nation.)

1. Corrupt the young; get them away from religion. Got them interested in sex. Make them superficial; destroy their ruggedness
2. Get control of all means of publicity, thereby:
 - Get people's minds off their government by focusing their attention on athletics, sexy books and plays, and other trivialities.
 - Divide the people into hostile groups by constantly harping on controversial matters of no importance.
 - Destroy the people's faith in their natural leaders by holding the latter up to contempt, ridicule and obloquy.
 - Always preach true democracy, but seize power as fast and ruthlessly as possible.
 - By encouraging government extravagances, destroy its credit, produce fear of inflation with rising prices, and general discontent.
 - Form unnecessary strikes in vital industries, encourage civil disorders, and foster a lenient and soft attitude on the part of government toward such disorders.
 - By specious argument, cause the breakdown of the moral virtues, honesty, sobriety, continence, faith in the pledged word, ruggedness.
 - Cause the registration of all firearms, on some pretext, with a view to confiscating them and leaving the population helpless.

Question: Do you see this in our nation right now?

Think about what is being taught in our nation in schools...

Our Statement of Faith

We accept the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice. **Psalm 12:6-7, I Peter 1:23**

We believe in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Matt. 28:19-20**
We believe in the deity of Christ— His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily resurrection, His exaltation at God's right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillennial return.

I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:11

We believe that all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour. **Romans 3:23**

We believe that men are born again through faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

Acts 16:30-31, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 1:13, John 10:28

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world. **John 5:28-29, Luke 16:22-23, Rev. 20:11-15**

We believe that Baptist churches were the first churches of Christianity and that Jesus founded a Baptist church. **John 1:35-37, Acts 1:22**

Baptist Beliefs

Biblical Authority

Autonomy of the Local Church

Priesthood of ALL Believers

Two ordinances - Baptism & Communion

Immersed Church Membership

Soul-liberty

Two officers - Pastors and Deacons

Separation of Church and State

Baptist Heritage

- **John the Baptist**, Exalter of Christ
- **Meno Simons** (1496-1561), Dutch Anabaptist leader
- **Roger Williams** (1603-1683), Founded the first Baptist church in America in Providence, Rhode Island in 1638.
- **John Clarke** (1609-1676) was a Baptist preacher, medical doctor, and co-founder of the colony of Rhode Island. He was a driving force to get religious freedom into the charter of Rhode Island.
- **John Bunyan** (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*
- **Charles Spurgeon** (1834-1892), might be the greatest Baptist pastor
- **John Franklyn Norris** (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- **Jack Frasure Hyles** (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year

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