

Sermon Notes

Christmas Is Really All About Forgiveness And Friendship with God

Matthew 1:18-25

A. Introduction

1. We are excited and often busy over festive seasons like Christmas and New Year. But do we know what the original purposes of festive seasons like Christmas are?
2. We shall look for the answer at the first Christmas as recorded for us in the Bible
3. The Bible is a God-spoken, honest, relevant and transforming book therefore we should read, study and believe in it.

B. The Unusual Circumstances

1. Unusual birth of Jesus
2. Unusual names of Jesus
 - a. “Jesus” means Saviour
 - b. “Immanuel” means God with us

C. The Peculiar Problems

1. We have disobeyed God and become enemies with God
 - a. The Bible says “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” God made our first our first parents Adam and Eve too but they disobeyed God’s word and sin enters into the world and become part of us. We have walked away from God lost that precious life giving friendship with God too.
 - b. The effects of living in disobedience to God’s word and walking away from God can be seen and felt in our homes, society, the world and lastly, in us.
 - c. The consequences of living a life that is disobedient to God’s word and walking away from God is death – physical and eternal.

D. The Gifts of Forgiveness and Friendship

1. Jesus came to save His people from their sins and condemnation and to restore His people to God by dying on the cross in their place and to pay for the penalties of their sin.
2. Christmas is really all about forgiveness and friendship with God.
3. Jesus – God with us – offers Himself to us in love.
4. How may I receive the gifts of forgiveness and friendship from God whom I have been disobeying and walking away from?
 - i. Acknowledge, confess and turn away from your sins and turn to Jesus with a trusting heart that He can save you from your sins and restore you
 - ii. Do not delay in coming to Jesus to receive the God's gifts of forgiveness and friendship.