

"The symbol of Christmas – What is it?"



It is the rainbow arched over the roof of the sky when the clouds are heavy with foreboding. It is the cry of life in the newborn babe when, forced from its mother's nest, it claims its right to live. It is the brooding Presence of the Eternal Spirit making crooked paths straight, rough places smooth, tired hearts refreshed, dead hopes stir with newness of life. It is the promise of tomorrow at the close of every day, the movement of life in defiance of death, and the assurance that love is sturdier than hate, that right is more confident than wrong, that good is more permanent than evil."

Howard Thurman (born 1900 in Daytona Beach, Florida - April 10, 1981 in Daytona Beach, Florida) was an author, philosopher, theologian, educator and civil rights leader.

Christmas Greetings to our wonderful family and friends around the country -

Another year means another year closer to The Babe's return – the One born to become King ...King of all the earth. (John 18:37)

Our lives have taken the turns that the lives of most people take – a few days of sickness, some disappointments, a few times of mourning and many times of rejoicing. Life is much the same every year. The one great change we can make is to walk closer, daily, with our Savior. Read His Word daily, pray earnestly, worship regularly and touch the lives of others with His Love.

Of all our children it seems Daniel's life was the one changing the most this past year. He graduated from Atlanta Bible College in May, married Rachel Cunningham in June, went on a honeymoon to Alaska and then moved to Omaha in July where he's spending a year interning with Pastor Scott Ross for his ministerial license.

The rest of our children are in good health and busy with their children and careers. We now have 9 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

When Jesus came the first time only a few saw him: the shepherds, the wise men and a few relatives. But when he returns:

...every eye shall see him (Rev. 1:7)

...every knee shall bow (Phil. 2:20)

...all shall hear the trumpet (1 Cor. 15:51, 52)

...he'll come as lighting that shines from the east to the west (Luke 17:23, 24)

We are reminded that our life is not our own but we have been bought with a price (1 Cor. 6:19, 20). May everything we do and say bring only honor and glory to God and His Son, Jesus.



“The greatest gift from the greatest giver.”

Dear Bedford Friends,

My wife and I extend to all our readers on this list a most wonderful and warm Christmas season.

For some, however, who have lost loved ones recently, we know this can be a difficult time of the year but I encourage you to focus on the Gift God has given us. And remember, too, that God lost his Son in an untimely and cruel death - willingly - on OUR BEHALF! How can a human put such love in human terms? Impossible.

Thus, there are many emotions being experienced at this season. But with God's Spirit in our hearts, let's remember that God has a plan for the world that is rapidly being played out - especially in the Middle East. Soon, we will never again have to even think about pain or sorrow or death! We will be like Jesus - immortal!

Paul expressed the situation well:

Romans 8: 18, I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

*Keep Christ in your Christmas and rejoice in the Gift we find under the tree
of Calvary!*

Pastor & Mrs. Rex Cain
Christmas 2007
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