



## Sermon Notes

### My Christmas Story – He Chose a Manger December 19, 2021

***How does the Christmas story apply to me?***

***Jesus didn't come so we could have a quaint holiday in December.***

***He Chose a Manger***

**Luke 2:7**

*<sup>7</sup> and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.*

**Philippians 2:6-8**

*<sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;  
<sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.  
<sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!*

***Jesus came to identify with us so we could find our identity in Him.***

***Jesus didn't come for a people that would cower before Him.***

***He came for a people who would come before Him.***

**Matthew 11:28-30**

*<sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."*

**Isaiah 57:15**

*<sup>15</sup> For this is what the high and exalted One says—  
he who lives forever, whose name is holy:  
"I live in a high and holy place,  
but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit,  
to revive the spirit of the lowly  
and to revive the heart of the contrite.*

***Jesus didn't come to make bad people good – He came to make dead people alive!***



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#### **Meek: *Strength under control***

#### **Isaiah 9:6-7**

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.  
<sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and peace  
there will be no end.

#### **Message version:**

*For a child has been born—for us!  
the gift of a son—for us!  
He'll take over  
the running of the world.  
His names will be: Amazing Counselor,  
Strong God,  
Eternal Father,  
Prince of Wholeness.  
His ruling authority will grow,  
and there'll be no limits to the wholeness he brings.*

#### ***We are secure in Jesus' arms***

#### **John 10:14**

<sup>14</sup> *"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—*

#### **John 10:27-28**

<sup>27</sup> *My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup> I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.*

#### ***We are secure in Jesus' redemption.***

#### **1 Peter 1:18-19**

<sup>18</sup> *For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.*



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**Redeem: *to buy back, to repair or restore, to free from what distresses or harms, to free from captivity by payment of ransom, to release from blame or debt, to remove an obligation by payment, to free from the consequences of sin***

***A gift must be received for it to be activated.***

***“This is Christmas: not the tinsel, not the giving and receiving, not even the carols, but the humble heart that receives anew the wondrous gift, the Christ.”***

**-Frank McKibben**

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