



CHRISTMAS CAROLS | PART 4 | TO THE WORLD

PSALM 98 ESV

PSALM 98 TMT

THIS YEAR WE ARE LOOKING THROUGH A UNIQUE LENS AS WE DISCOVER OR REDISCOVER THE CHRISTMAS STORY BY REVISITING AND EVEN DISSECTING CLASSIC CAROLS....

CAROLS THAT HAVE BEEN SUNG, SOME FOR CENTURIES, THAT TELL OF GREAT STORIES OF THE MAJESTY OF GOD, THE GOSPEL OF HIS COMING, THE MIRACLE OF WORD MADE FLESH, THE GLORY OF ALMIGHTY GOD PLACED IN THE VESSEL OF HUMAN, FULLY GOD, YET FULLY MAN, MAJESTY AS THE ONLY SON OF GOD.

CHRIST IS WORTH CELEBRATING...

ROMANS 5:8 “but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

RECAP:

THE FIRST WEEK WE LOOKED AT THE CAROL: “OH COME ALL YE FAITHFUL” A CALLING TO RECOGNIZE AND WORSHIP WHO CHRIST IS...

THIS SONG IS A CALL... A CALL OF PREPARATION, TO WORSHIP AND SING THE GLORY OF GOD...

IN PART 2

WE LOOKED AT: “GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN” ..._A SONG OF URGENCY AND LIVING LIFE OUT LOUD! IT’S ALSO A REMINDER OF THE MESSAGE BROUGHT TO THE HUMBLE SHEPHERDS THAT BLESSED DAY...

LAST WEEK WE LOOKED AT “MARY DID YOU KNOW”

SHE MAY NOT HAVE KNOWN ALL OF WHAT JESUS WOULD GO THROUGH TO FULFILL THE COVENANT PROMISE... BUT SHE DID NOT NEED TO KNOW THOSE DETAILS TO BE FAITHFUL TO THE ONE WHO ALWAYS IS WORTHY!

... BUT WHAT SHE DID KNOW IS THOSE WORDS OF THE ANGEL:

³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.”

AS WE SEEK TO CAP THIS SERIES, WE ARE TALKING ABOUT JOY...

IN 1719, Isaac Watts, an English hymn writer, wrote the lyrics to Joy to the World based on Psalm 98 in the Bible.

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,*

*Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,*

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,*

MATT 2:1-6

WHEN THE WISEMEN CAME TO KING HEROD, THEY ARE SEEKING THE MESSIAH AND THEY CALLED HIM “KING OF THE JEWS”

LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS CONCEPT.... HEROD IS SERVING AS THE “JEWISH KING” OVER JUDEA... HE IS A HUMAN KING IN MANY WAYS HE IS A FLAWED KING....

MATT 2:7-18

HEROD'S MASSIVE BUILDING PROJECTS

HE BUILT CAESAREA MARITIMA

HE CREATED A MASSIVE REBUILDING PROJECT IN JERUSALEM

PERHAPS HIS MOST PROUD PROJECT WAS

HERODIUM... A GIGANTIC HILL TOP PALACE, WITH A MILITARY FORTRESS...

THIS MONUMENT TO KING HEROD OVERLOOKS THE SMALL TOWN OF BETHLEHEM.

HEROD GAVE A GRAND ILLUSION OF ONIMPISCENSE, AND DIVINITY...

AND YET HERE'S JESUS' BIRTH... HUMBLE NOT PROUD.

JULY 22ND 2013, PRINCE GEORGE, THE FIRST BRITISH ROYAL BABY IN 30 YEARS WAS BORN...

HIS BIRTH HAD OVER 2MILLION MENTIONS ON WHAT WAS THEN CALLED TWITTER...

OVER 25,000 POSTS A MINUTE...

#ROYALBABY WAS USED OVER 900,000 TIMES

BRITS SPENT MILLIONS OF DOLLARS

YET OUR BIBLE TELLS OF THE SUPREMECY OF CHRIST:

HEBREWS 1:1-12

THERE WERE SOME WHO CAME TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE NEWBORN JESUS...

MATTHEW 2:10-11

These Magi (otherwise known as “Wise Men”) were a special class of priests in the Persian

Because of their knowledge and influence, they also served as political advisors and even “king-makers,”

The Three Gifts of the Magi

- 1. Gold**
- 2. Frankincense**
- 3. Myrrh**

Who is this Jesus, the King of the Jews??

-the word **John 1:14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

-the light **John 8:12** Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

-the son of God **John 20:31** But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

-the King **Revelation 19:16** On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

-the way to the Father **John 14:6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

-the ultimate prophet **John 6:14** When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!"

-the healer **Matt 8:16-17** ¹⁶ That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. ¹⁷ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

-the judge **John 5:22** For the Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son,

-the redeemer **Ephesians 1:7** In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace,

-our high priest, **Hebrews 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

-the savior **John 3:16** “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

-the son of man... God in flesh. Born in a humble form, perhaps rather simple. Yet, He is unique due to being divine. He is God without glory because He chose to step out of His glory for a little while...

Jesus was rejected by God’s people because He appears very much the opposite of a King

Heb 1:1-4 HEB 2:5-18

HOW DOES THE BIRTH OF THE KING PRODUCE JOY???

5479. chara: 1. cheerfulness, i.e. calm delight "joy because of grace"

TRUTH: Joy is not the same as “happiness” which is a temporary feeling or emotion. Joy (Biblically) is tied to something spiritual. It’s not just recognition of our salvation but deeply felt state of being. It’s security in the truth, even while facing difficulty.

FROM EARLY IN THE SERIES:

THE GOSPEL MY FRIENDS WOULD BE FULFILLED IN THE CROSS, THE DEATH, AND THE RESURRECTION, **BUT IT STARTS WITH HIS BIRTH...** AND IS **FULLY MANIFEST AT HIS SECOND COMING.**

REVELATION 19:11-16

Joy is not the absence of pain. It is not the amount of happiness. Joy is not found in something that can be done; it isn't a verb. You cannot *do* joy, but you can choose to accept and embrace the gift of joy, which is simply found in the eternal knowledge that through Christ we are saved.

How to receive this gift of joy?

- receive Christ as your savior
- repent (reject) your old life
- Embrace the Holy Spirit
- ask for it
- choose it daily!