



A SERIES OF CHRISTMAS MESSAGES BY DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR
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God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the smaller faced text.
Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets.

All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

Forgiveness is the virtue we most enjoy and least employ...If there is someone you have not forgiven, you are not yet free!"

- Dr. David Jeremiah

A. A Word about Our Sins

- All our sins are scandalous before a Holy God.
- All of us have sinned.
- Any of us are deceived if we say we have no sins.
- All our sins will be known—in time.
- Our sin will take us further than we ever intended to go; keep us longer than we even intended to stay; and cost us more than we ever intended to pay—Sin always cost us our dreams.
- The result of sin is death.
- Sin is a universal malady that has affected every single person.
- We can pretend that sin is *no big deal*, but every time we do, it is at our peril.
- Our sins are a big, terrible, heinous deal!
- Today, God offers His complete forgiveness of our sins

Satan continues his efforts to make sin less offensive, heaven less appealing, hell less horrific and the gospel less urgent.

- Dr. John MacArthur

B. A Word about Our Savior

1. Who came?

Matthew 1:20, NASB95 -²⁰ ...an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. **NOTE:** Mary was with child by the Holy Spirit, apart from normal relations with a man. God Himself, can interrupt the laws of His creation to accomplish His purposes. The Virgin birth is essential to the deity of Christ and the sinless humanity of Christ.

Answer: Jesus Christ, born of the virgin Mary, is none other than the eternal God in human flesh. We call Him by His name—"Jesus." Cf., Gen.3:15, Is.

7:14, Jer. 31:22, Luke 1:26-38; Luke 1:26-28, Matt. 1:18-20, Lk. 1:35, Heb. 2:14, Phil. 2:7, Gen. 5:1-3, Rom. 5:15-21, Eph. 2:1-2, 1 Pet. 1:18-19 Heb. 9:14.

2. Why did He come?

Matthew 1:21, NASB95 -²¹ "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

Answer: He came to save people who could not save themselves.

3. Who will He save?

Matthew 1:21, NASB95 -²¹ "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."

NOTE: Matt. 1:21 is a fulfillment of Psalm 130 specifically v. 8.

Answer: Clearly, "His people."

4. How will He save His people?

Revelation 5:9, NASB95 -⁹ And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are You to take the book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

Answer: By His substitutionary death on the cross.

C. A Word from Our Savior.

1. Admit that you are a sinner—who cannot save yourself—and ask the Savior to save you.
2. Receive and give *forgiveness* this Christmas season.
3. Hold on to hope when you don't know how to cope—Jesus still saves this Christmas season.