

## *Name above all names*

The Lord Jesus came as a baby, lived, died and rose again.

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9–11

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him.

1 Corinthians 15:21–23

Which family are you in? What is your future?



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Tel: 01505 228208 Email: info@telitquick.org

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## **Christmas** **It's all in the Name**

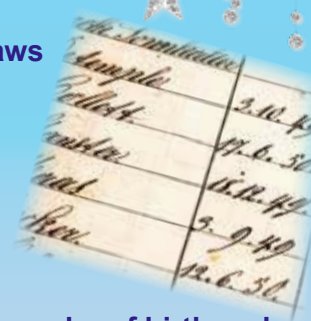


## *Names have meaning*

Excitement mounts as the arrival of the new baby draws near.

What name will he/she be given? Will it be a family name? What does the name mean? Will it reflect the character of the child?

Then comes the thrill and wonder of birth and the bonding of mother and her baby. Everyone celebrates the new arrival.



What will the future of the newborn hold? The parents talk about their hopes and plans and are fearful of something going wrong.

But why think about names at Christmas?

## *A significant birthday*

You and your birthday are important to God and he wants to give you a spiritual birthday.



So in the most personal way He also became human to reach out to you. We remember its importance because Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ (God's chosen one).

Mary his mother met the wise men and the shepherds. She heard of the killing of all the children in the area who were under two as an attempt to kill Jesus. Then in the temple, Simeon told her

And a sword will pierce your own soul too.

Luke 2:35

**She learned then that Jesus was born to die!**

**Who would want that the purpose of their child's life was to die?**

**Because of this, He has the right, both by creation and by his death, for us to be related to Him and He has our best interests at heart.**

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17

**But why did He need to die?**

## *Family tree*

How often have you heard it said of a young child 'He looks just like his father'?

Christmas reminds us that Jesus grew up like we do, but he was perfect. He never did anything wrong for He is God in human form, as he said

"...for I always do what pleases him (*God the Father*)."

John 8:29



**We too are like our parents, and like them we all come short of God's standard and it causes a breach in our relationship with him.**

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23



**So, how did the Lord Jesus, by becoming man, provide something that we can't get for ourselves?**

## *It's all in the name*

God told Mary and Joseph that...

"you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:21

**Mary watched him die by crucifixion and yet it was for everyone including you that he died, making the payment for your failures, and mistakes, so that you could become a child of God.**



**For...**

Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

**But those who reject the free offer of life from the Lord Jesus face a final judgement.**

And I saw the dead, standing before the throne, and books were opened. The dead were judged according to what they had done ... Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the lake of fire.

Revelation 20:12, 15

**How then can I go from being a child of a condemned family to being a child of God?**

## *A registered name*



We register our children's names with the registrar. Mary and Joseph went to the temple in Jerusalem to record his birth and give thanks to God. God however already knows everyone.

**King David said**

"Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!"

Psalms 139:16, 17

**The Lord Jesus was born to die. But he also rose from the dead so that you could be made alive forever. For...**

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

Romans 10:13



**So call on the Lord Jesus today acknowledging your specific failures and sins. Thank him for coming into the world and dying and rising again and ask him to make you his child.**