

REDEMPTION'S STORY

In our sad and broken world the real tragedy is that so many of us still won't see past the cards, presents and Christmas dinner. There's no room in our lives for the One whose birthday we celebrate... the consequences of which are surely unthinkable...

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already...

John 3:18

Yet wise men and women still seek Him today...

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Isaiah 55:6-7

...and discover the Christmas Story's happy ending!

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart...

Jeremiah 29:13

C*H*R*I*S*T*M*A*S

...more than
a story!



C*H*R*I*S*T*M*A*S

...more than a story!

Behind the tinsel, the turkey and the tree lies a story... a story unlike any other.

For this is far more than the tale of a young Middle Eastern girl who finds herself pregnant under peculiar circumstances and goes on to give birth in the ultimate makeshift maternity unit!

This is a story of wonder and mystery ...of God taking the form of man and coming into our world... a story of mercy, peace and sacrificial love.

May you come to know the reality of God's love this Christmas and on through the coming year...



CHRISTMAS

greetings from



...because it's *more* than a story!

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HOPES AND FEARS

The central figure in the Christmas Story is of course the baby Jesus... the Son of God. Much later, the Apostles would go on to say...

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14

Yet when we put our lives alongside what we know of His, we fall so far short of the standard He sets for...

All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags.

Isaiah 64:6

Just as the shepherds drew back with fear in the midst of God's glory, so even the best of us would rightly fear the eternal consequences of offending God by the way we live for

...people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment...

Hebrews 9:27

But thankfully, the story doesn't end there!

CHRIST THE REDEEMER

Christ Jesus came into the world that first Christmas to be far more than our example... He came as Saviour...

Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners...

1 Timothy 1:15

For this reason He was born, not to live... but to die... at the age of 33, on the Cross of Calvary...

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Only through His perfect life and sacrificial death could the righteous anger of God the Father be truly satisfied...

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

1 Peter 3:18

...and to offer the only way to peace with Him...

I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

LOVE CAME DOWN

This Christmas, someone may show the extent of their love for us by the nature of their gift. The most precious gift which God could give mankind was His Son... the greatest act of love the world has ever known...

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son...

John 3:16

On that first Christmas the wise men brought gifts as an expression of worship... before returning home a different way. In response to God having given His best for us, we can do no better than offer ourselves to Him ...seeking His forgiveness.

By turning away from all He says is wrong, asking the risen Lord Jesus into our lives by His Spirit and accepting His challenge to all true followers, so the course of our future will take a whole new direction...

...to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...

John 1:12

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Luke 9:23

EVERLASTING LIGHT

The Christmas Story is one of grace, mercy and peace but also opportunity... Almighty God providing a way through which we can receive a completely new start in life... along with the motivation and power to live a new lifestyle, pleasing to Him...

...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

The New Life which was worshipped in that stable 2,000 years ago offers 'new life' today... one which He promises will never end...

I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

John 11:25-26

But all of this won't be forced upon us...

