

# REMINDER

Volume XV

December 20, 2009

Number 50

## 'Twas The Night Before Christmas - And Who Thought Of Jesus?

A New Version By Patricia T. Warren

 was the night before Christmas  
and all through the house,  
Everyone was stirring,  
perhaps even the mouse!

Our Bibles were laid on the shelf without care -  
Who thought of Jesus? No time for Him here.  
For no one thought that Jesus would come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed,  
Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head.  
With me in a dither over presents to wrap,  
And dinner to fix . . . So I took a nap!

When at the front door there arose such a clatter,  
I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,  
Tore open the shutters and threw open the sash!  
When what to my wondering eyes should appear?  
But carolers singing about "Midnight Clear,"  
Of a Saviour in Bethlehem, laid on some hay,  
"Hark,: how the angels sing, He is the Way!

The truth in their words made me bow my head,  
To think of this Jesus whom I thought was dead,  
And though I possessed wordly wisdom and wealth,  
I knew I'd missed something when I saw myself.

This baby whom others had worshipped as God  
Had now become Saviour and walked on this sod.  
O come now, you mean all the ribbons and bows  
Have kept me from Jesus, the real Christmas rose?  
I've caught up with Christmas, spent money galore.  
But not seeing God's gift, I simply ignore

The truth of this Day, the reason He came,  
To bear all my sin, to take all my shame.

They called Him a Saviour, but such a small boy,  
A babe in a manger, can He bring such joy?  
He grew up I'm sure, walked Palestine o'er,  
And now is He knocking at my heart's door?

That night in dark Bethlehem there was no room,  
And later they killed Him, a Cross and a Tomb,  
Why did they do that? Did they forget?  
He healed their sick, fed them bread, and yet,  
No one remembered; they wouldn't believe.  
That He was God's Son whom we should receive.  
In spite of the miracles, they cried, "Crucify Him!"  
They watched as He died, rejected by them.

But "Father, forgive them," I remember He said,  
Not malice, but love He offered instead,  
On this Cross where he died,  
this true Christmas tree,  
He died as a Saviour, for all, even me.

He rose up to prove it, that's why they still sing  
Of a manger in Bethlehem, that "cradled a King."  
This Christmas so special, I must make a change,  
I must tell the children, get away from the range,  
We'll worship the Saviour, yes, enjoy all the toys,  
But we won't forget Jesus, no matter the noise,  
We'll shout from the housetops  
and sing it with glee.

"Joy to the world," for you and for me.

**BE SURE AND PLAN TO BE HERE TONIGHT FOR OUR -**

# *Church Family Christmas Fellowship*



Following The Evening Service in Fellowship Hall  
Bring Your Favorite Christmas Goodies!

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*You Can Help Missionaries Overseas By Giving To Our Lottie  
Moon Christmas Offering Through Our*  
***LOTTIE MOON POST OFFICE!***

Every year, our membership helps fund overseas missions by giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering in an unusual way. Instead of sending Christmas cards to other church members through the regular mail, our members are encouraged to bring their cards to the ***Lottie Moon Post Office*** which is located in the foyer where they can place them in the appropriate mailbox, and deposit the money they would normally spend on postage in the lockbox on the side of the post office.

It's a great way to remember your fellow church members at Christmas AND help missionaries at the same time! Don't forget to bring your cards and postage money by next week!



**CHRISTMAS**

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*And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.*

*And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and*

*wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.*

*And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.*

*And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.*

*And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.*

*- Luke 2:1-21*

## **ONLY ONE LIFE**

*It matters so little  
How much you may own,  
The places you've been  
or the people you've known.*

*For it all comes to nothing  
when placed at His feet.*

*It's nothing to Jesus,  
- just memories to keep.*

*You may take all the treasures  
From far away lands.*

*Take all the riches  
you can hold in your hands.*

*And take all the pleasures  
that money can buy,*

*But what will you have,  
- when it's your time to die?*

*Only one life!*

*- so soon it will pass!*

*Only what's done  
for Christ will last!*

*Only one chance to do His will!*

*So give to Jesus all your days,  
it's the only life that pays,*

*When you recall -*

*You have but one life!*

*The days pass so swiftly,  
the months come and go.*

*The years melt away,  
like new fallen snow.*

*Spring turns to summer,  
summer to fall.*

*Autumn brings winter,  
then death comes to call.*

*Only one life!*

*- so soon it will pass!*

*Only what's done  
for Christ will last!*

*Only one chance to do His will!*

*So give to Jesus all your days,  
it's the only life that pays,*

*When you recall -*

*You have but one life!*

**NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK**

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Mary Byars  
 Cradle Roll 2: Larry Byars

6:30 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Charity Crawford  
 Cradle Roll 2: Brian Crawford

**AND THE PEOPLE CAME...**

*Week of December 13, 2009*

Sunday School -----	21
Sunday Morning Service -----	34
Sunday Evening Service -----	28
Wed. Eve., 12/16/09 Service -----	23

**AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...**

*Week of December 13, 2009*

<u>Undesignated</u> Tithes & Offerings -----		\$	968.00
Total Received for Week of 12/13/09:		\$	968.00

Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed  
 to operate the church  
 EACH WEEK,  
as a minimum = **\$ 1,400.00** 

**FUND DRIVE REPORTS**

**We Are Suspending Our Specific Fund  
 Drives Until Our Regular Weekly  
 Offerings Come Back Up To Where They  
 Need To Be. Please Give As Much As You  
 Can To Help Us Catch Up After The  
 Extremely Low Giving We Experienced  
 This Summer And Fall.**

**THERE WILL BE NO MID-WEEK SERVICE THIS  
 WEEK TO ALLOW OUR FOLKS TO BE WITH  
 THEIR FAMILIES.**

Visit Us Online At - [www.southheightsbaptist.com](http://www.southheightsbaptist.com)

**WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED**

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



**Please Remember To  
 Be Faithful to Give!**

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - OK? Thank you.

**Church Directory**

Todd W. White -----	Pastor
Mickie Shatwell -----	Pianist
Dickie Eberle -----	Greeter, Custodian
Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White -----	S.S. Teachers
Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford, Dwayne English, Geroux family -----	Outreach
Flowers -----	Hannah and Shirley White