

## **“The Meaning of Christmas”**

Dr. Cliff McManis  
December 23, 2007

1. At Christmas, inimitable prophecies were fulfilled.

*“And the LORD God said to the serpent...I will put enmity between you and the woman (Eve), and between your seed and her seed; He shall crush your head, yet you shall bruise Him on the heel” (Genesis 3:15)*

*“I see Him, but not now; I behold Him but not near; a star shall come forth from Jacob, and a scepter shall rise from Israel” (Numbers 24:17)*

*“I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish His kingdom...and I will establish the throne of His kingdom forever” (2 Samuel 7:12-13)*

*“Seventy sevens have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness ...until Messiah the Prince” (Daniel 9:24-25)*

*“But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, from the days of eternity” (Micah 5:2)*

2. At Christmas, the curse of sin was by-passed.

*“And the LORD God said...cursed are you...cursed is the earth because of you” (Genesis 3:14, 17)*

*“there is no one who does not sin” (1 Kings 8:46)*

*“The person who sins will die” (Ezekiel 18:20)*

*“in sin my mother conceived me” (Psalm 51:5)*

*“all have sinned” (Romans 3:23)*

*“through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men” (Romans 5:12)*

*“Behold! The virgin shall be with Child, and shall bear a Son” (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23)*

*“And the angel answered and said to her, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy offspring shall be called the Son of God’ ” (Luke 1:35)*

*“Jesus the Son of God...a high priest...who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin” (Hebrews 4:14-15)*

3. At Christmas, God became a man.

*“For a Child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6)*

*“In the beginning was the Word (Jesus), and the Word was with God (the Father), and the Word was God (deity)...and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us” (John 1:1, 14)*

*“And they came into the house and saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down and worshipped Him; and opening their treasures they presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh” (Matthew 2:11)*

*“Christ Jesus...existed in the form of God...being found in appearance as a man” (Philippians 2:5-7)*

*“For there is one God, and one Mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus” (1 Timothy 2:5)*

4. At Christmas, salvation became a reality.

*“In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed” (Genesis 12:3)*

*“I will also make You a light to the nations so that My salvation may reach to the ends of the earth” (Isaiah 49:6)*

*“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited us and accomplished redemption for His people, and raised up a horn of salvation for us...to give to His people the knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins” (Luke 1:68-69, 77)*

*“And she will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for it is He who will save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21)*

*“we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world” (John 4:42)*

*“If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, then you shall be saved” (Romans 10:9)*