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Christmas 2025 Number Three Editor:

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"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,"

Philippians 1:3

First let me wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! As another year comes to an end we can look back and reflect on all that God has done in our lives and ministry. God's blessings are more than we can number and his mercy has abounded in every situation. Christmas is always a time of remembering. We can't help but look back on the year we have just come through, but we also remember the many Christmases past. I know I love to think back on my childhood at Christmas time. After all, we all become children on Christmas Eve.

But there is another kind of remembering we do as well, we remember others this Christmas. We pick up a few extra gifts to share with those less fortunate.

Many will pack shoe boxes full of holiday joy for some child thousands of miles away who we will never see but we remember them. Our church will collect dozens of turkeys and all the special fixings to make up a family



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Christmas dinner so they will not have to go without. Yes, this is part of remembering at Christmas.

I want to encourage you to engage in still another type of remembering this season. The GPA has nearly fifty families serving as missionaries at home and around the world and they would love to hear from you. Maybe a Christmas card or a letter from you would lift them up this year. Perhaps you could send a few extra dollars to a few families serving far away or they might just be struggling to make it through a tough financial year. Just a little extra TLC from you might really make all the difference. Sometimes the smallest of gestures

can have the greatest impact.

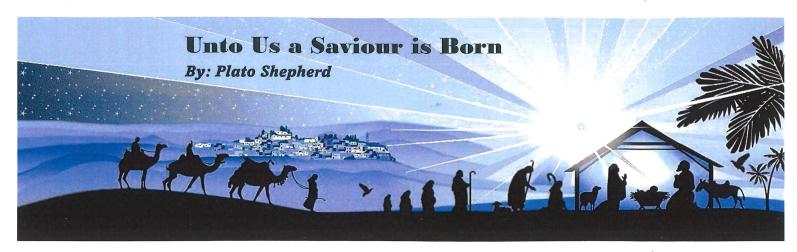
One year when our family was serving in Wales as missionaries, the ladies from NMBC covered a cardboard box with material and lace and filled it full of goodies from the states. I can't tell you just how much that little box of love meant to us. What I can say is that it's been almost thirty five years since we received it, but today we still have that box, and we have the memory of the joy it brought to our entire family. Let's remember our missionaries this year. May every one of them receive something to uplift their spirits this Christmas season. Paul wrote to the church at Phillippi and said, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,." Wouldn't it

be nice if someone, somewhere, said that about you this Christmas.



Pictured above: The Gary Moore Family and the Rex McPherson Family, 1st GPA missionaries to Wales.





"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."

Luke 2:10-12

As we celebrate Christmas this year and read the glorious story of the Saviour's birth, let's consider the birth of Jesus and some of the many things that had to come together for all the Scriptures to be fulfilled proving that Jesus is the one and only Saviour of the world.

The end of the Old Covenant had to come and the beginning of the New Testament had to begin.

Rome had to be in power causing Joseph, who lived in Nazareth, to go to Bethlehem to be taxed under Roman Law. Rome also had to be in power for crucifixion to be the mode of execution since Christ was born to die on the cross for the sins of the world.

Jesus had to be born in the right place, The city of David, Bethlehem!

Micah 5:2 "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have

been from of old, from everlasting."

Jesus had to be born in the right way. It had to be a virgin birth.

Isaiah 7:14 "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."







Jesus had to be born into the right family. Matthew 1 and Luke 3 prove His linage to be of David. Only a descendent of David could rule and reign as Messiah on that throne. Christ will one day ascend to the throne of His father David to rule in the Millenium.

Jesus had to be born the right person. Christ, the Lord!

Isaiah 9:6 "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his

name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Jesus was born for the right Purpose. He was born to be the Saviour of the World.

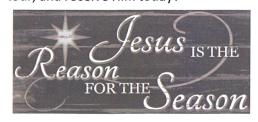
Luke 1:46, 47 "Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour."

Galatians 4:4,5 "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

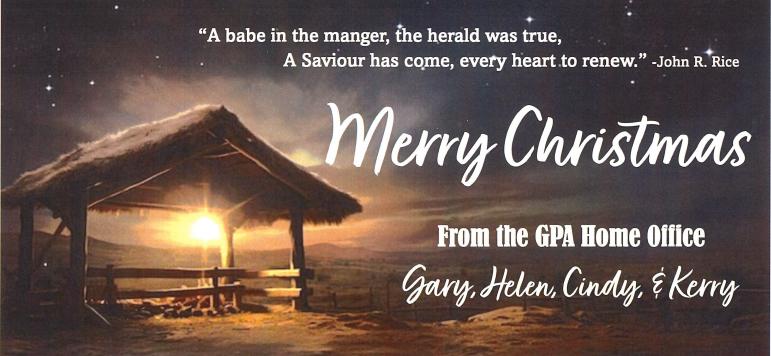
Jehovah God loved us so much that He went to great lengths to send forth His only Begotten Son into the sin-cursed world that we might be saved.

I Timothy 2:4 "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

Friend, have you received Jesus as your Saviour? If the Holy Spirit is dealing with you causing you to realize that you are a lost, hell deserving sinner, why not call upon God asking Him to forgive you of your sin, trust Jesus as your Saviour, and receive Him today?









Every year I try to find the perfect gift for those who are on my Christmas list. It is always a joy to see one of the little ones open a present and find that it is just what they wanted. But sometimes I find myself wandering through the mall or scrolling online aimlessly looking and looking, never finding exactly what I want to buy.

I am not one of those people who are great at gift-giving, but I know plenty of people who are. I've been the recipient of some awesome gifts from those gift-givers. They know what will put a huge smile on my face or even make me shed a few tears. They put a lot of time, effort, and forethought into their gifts. I'm sure you are thinking of someone you know right now who is just like that.

The greatest gift-giver is our Heavenly Father. On that first Christmas so many years ago, He gave the greatest gift ever given. It wasn't wrapped in shiny paper with fancy ribbons and bows,

tucked under a tree, but "wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." Luke 2:12 God's gift to a sinful world was Jesus, the perfect, sinless Son of God. The Son that "came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10:45

Salvation was offered to the world through this perfect gift. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." Ephesians 2:8

When we receive the gift of salvation, we get so much more than we ever expected. *It is truly the gift that keeps on giving.* The Holy Spirit and the written Word of God teach us, comfort us, and guide us. We are blessed with pastors, teachers, and church families to pray with, grow with, and serve with. The list goes on and

on: mercy, grace, peace, for-giveness.







This Christmas when you are searching for that perfect gift, remember that it has already been given.

"Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." 2 Corinthians 9:15



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