

**December 22, 1945**

**“On Radio Saturday”**

**Luke 2:1-20**

The Reverend Dr. Girard Lowe

Scripture Lesson: Luke 2:1-20

The Christmas Season is unique in the world's history. There are other holiday seasons which are surely racial or national. We celebrate our Independence Day and Washington's Birthday. England has her Coronation Day; France her Bastille Day; Mexico her Fiestas. But these are purely national or racial holiday seasons. Christmas, however, is a season of rejoicing which cuts across all racial and national barriers. In almost every corner of the earth people will be observing the Christmas Season.

Of course, it will be celebrated in different ways by different peoples. To some it will simply be a time for gaiety and a round of social events; to others it will be chiefly a time of surcease from arduous labors; to others a time for families to be gathered together. To the church, it will be a season of preaching and singing of the Christ.

But the real meaning of Christmas is that it is the birthday of the Christ. We celebrate other birthdays, but this one is different, entirely different from all the others. It is different because:

I. It was the day God came to earth

1. The prophets had foretold His coming.
2. Jews had looked for it for generations.
3. Wise men followed the star.
4. Shepherds went to investigate this strange event.
5. Angels filled the heavens singing, “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men.”
6. And millions are still singing, “Joy to the world, the Lord is come.”
7. Some men would tell us today that all of this came out of the imagination of the mind of man.
  - a. But, if man had imagined God was born on earth, would he not have surrounded it with entirely different circumstances?
    1. They would have had it happen in the Temple, or the ornate palace of Herod or perhaps would never have thought of the land of Palestine for the birth at all; would perhaps thought of Athens or more likely Rome.
    2. But surely they would never have dreamed of it taking place in a stable and the mother having to use a manger as a cradle.
8. It was not the imagination of men, but was the actual birth of God into the world.
  - a. It is this we celebrate at this Christmas time.

II. Again it was the birthday of the Savior

1. It was not the birth of a great author, artist, musician, scientist, or even a doctor.

- a. It was the Savior.
- b. We read in Luke 2:28 that Simeon “took Him in his arms and blessed God and said, ‘Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy Word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation; which thou has prepared for all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people, Israel.’”
  - 1. Here was a small child which a man could hold in his arms, but which the centuries cannot fully explain, for He was the Savior of the world.
  - 2. This One whose birthday we celebrate is The One, The Only One who can save men from their sins.

### III. Again it was the birthday of the King

- 1. He is Ruler of the universe. He made all things and without Him was not anything made.
  - a. All nature obeys Him.
    - 1. The wind and sea obey His voice. Disease was healed at His command. Evil spirits obeyed His orders.
  - b. He rules the world and the time will come when every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.

### Conclusion:

- 1. Here is the meaning of Christmas. It is the celebration of the coming of God to earth; it is the time when the Savior was born. It is the birthday of the King of kings.
- 2. But though it may mean that to the world and even more to the Church, it can have no real meaning to you unless you have a genuine experience of this in your heart. So may you claw your way through the tinsel, the holly, and the ribbons back to the manger; and there not see the red and green and blue lights hanging on a tree, but may you behold in the Babe of Bethlehem the shekinah glory of God Himself. May you kneeling there find, not alone, the Savior of the world, but your own Savior, and with humble and repentant hearts crown Him King of kings in your own heart and life.
  - a. If this has happened to you or if you will let it happen to you now, then the whole of Christmas will have a new meaning and with a heart filled with a new sense of praise, you will sing, “Joy to the world, the Lord is come!”
- 3. So with the abiding presence of the Babe of Bethlehem, the Man of Galilee, the Savior of Calvary, at your side, may this be a truly Merry Christmas.