



[*H.I.S.] He Is Savior, Acts 4:12

December 1, 2021

HIS Ministries December 2021 Newsletter, covering November 2021

We wish you a blessed Christmas, as we praise and thank God for becoming a man to save us from our sin.

(John 1: 1, 14; 3:16.)

If we'd randomly ask people why they celebrate Christmas, we may receive multitudes of answers that have nothing to do with the Real Meaning of Christmas. Some say that *it is a good time to have a few days off from work or school, and have parties with family and friends, kind of like Thanksgiving*, though many do not know the background of Thanksgiving either. Some think that decorating their homes inside and out for Christmas makes their life better, happier and brighter, and surely more festive. To children even weeks before Christmas is the time to send letters to Santa Claus and letting him know what they would want to get for Christmas. **What about you? What would you tell those who ask why you celebrate Christmas? Would you be willing and even eager to tell unbelievers about Jesus and what you know and believe about why He came and why you trust and believe in Him?**

Most of our religious celebrations originate from *Judeo-Christian* traditions, and thus are biblically based. Perhaps because the Jews do not believe in Jesus Christ and do not celebrate Christmas to the world at large Christmas has become mainly just a "holiday" rather than **the Holy Day**.

But all of us who believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior and Lord, shouldn't we be giving reasons for our Christmas celebration to those who do not yet know Him?

We could give them first just a brief history lesson how *believers in Jesus Christ* came to *celebrate Christmas as a His Birthday*. Matthew 2:1-2 tells that after Jesus was born, there came some *wise men from the East (Persia)* to Jerusalem saying that they had seen the sign from God in the heavens that the *King of the Jews (Messiah)* was born, and that they came to worship Him, bringing Him gifts: **gold, frankincense and myrrh**. Therefore **giving gifts to those we love** when we celebrate Jesus' birth, has become a tradition among believers in Christ, and it has spread as *a tradition among Western nations* that acknowledge Christian celebrations. But the early church did not celebrate Christmas. Perhaps the reason was that Christianity didn't become accepted as *a respectable religious faith* until during the 4th century, and when it became accepted, it was combined with (and it actually replaced) the old pagan celebration of *Winter Solstice, the shortest day of the year, then December 21st, and was combined with Christmas that began to be celebrated on the 25th of December*. - Sharing this bit of information at first may open the door for you to tell them more about Jesus and what He means to you and why He was born. Luke 2:11 reports, **"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."** Luke also records, **"There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock at nights."** (Luke 2:8.) From these Scriptures we learn that **He was born to us as the Savior and Lord**. We also see that His actual birth could not have been December 25th for in Israel, that time of the year, shepherds would not have been out in the fields with their flocks. The flocks would have been placed in caves or stables to protect them from the cold winter nights. But the most important fact told there is that **Christ the Savior was born for us**. Even if 25th of

December was not the exact date when He was born, we can figure out that His birth more than likely would have taken place in the early fall than in late December.

Dr. Henry M. Morris IV (of ICR.org) gave more information in "Acts & Fact" saying, "Early Christians in Britain celebrated the feast of 'Michaelmas' on September 29, also known as the Feast of Archangels.

"Michaelmas" literally means "Michael sent", just as Christmas means "Christ sent". Scripture always portrays Michael the Archangel as leading God's angelic host (Rev. 12:7), and while the text doesn't say, it's possible that Michael was the same 'angel of the Lord', sent with 'a multitude of heavenly host' to announce the birth of the 'Savior, who is Christ the Lord', Luke 2:9-13). It is also significant that this date occurs just before the joyous Feast of Tabernacles. Ancient Israelites celebrated this feast each fall in thankfulness for the harvest by dwelling in handmade tents, or 'tabernacles'. When the apostle John wrote, 'the Word became flesh and dwelt among us', (John 1:14), he used the unique Greek word 'scenoo' to emphasize that Christ the Creator 'tabernacled' (dwelt) with us for a time. So, just as Michael and angels proclaimed 'good tidings of great joy...to all people' (Luke 2:10), Christ's entrance into the world may have come at the Feast of Tabernacles, a time of great rejoicing in the nation. But as marvelous as the birth of our Savior is, this wasn't His miraculous incarnation. That moment occurred nine months earlier when Jesus [the second Person of Trinity] willingly emptied Himself and took 'the form of a bondservant' in Mary's womb to be made 'in the likeness of men' (Phil. 2:7). As such, the date of Christmas (i.e. 'Christ sent') may very well have been nine months earlier than 'Michaelmas' – which again brings us back to December 25. There are 278 days between December 25 and September 29, which is remarkably close to the average period for normal human gestation! ... Wouldn't it be fitting that Jesus' 'tabernacled' with us [began] during the season of the longest night to come as 'the light of the world' (John 8:12)? ... As the world grows more hostile to Christ, it's imperative that all believers everywhere 'shine as lights in the world' in the 'midst of a crooked and perverse generation' (Phil. 2:15)."

The Word of God makes it clear that Jesus is "God with us". (Matt. 1:23; John 1:1, 14.) He said, "If you do not believe that I AM He (God) you will die in your sins". (John 8:24; Rev. 1:8.) [If you die "in your sins" you are not going to heaven!] Jesus is the Creator of everything, both in heaven and in earth, "visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers: All things were created by Him and for Him... and in Him all things consist." (Col. 1:14-17.)

When Jesus was informing and preparing His followers for the coming last days, His very first warning was about deceptions of who He is, about His person. He warned that many will use His name, but yet do not know who He is! (Matt. 24:3-5.) He said that they are false prophets. (Matt. 7:15, 20-23; 2 Cor. 11:3-4, 13-15.) They may say that they know Him, but they only know "about Him". They have only read about Him, but they cannot know Him for they have not had one-to-one personal relationship with Him. Many false religions acknowledge Jesus' earthly life, but they do not really know who He is. Some say that he was a prophet, some say he was a good teacher and example to all, etc. Jehovah's Witnesses say that he was/is Michael the Archangel.

Mormon doctrine of Jesus is not biblical either, but in order know what they teach about Jesus, we have to show first who is their God the Father: God of Mormonism is not Eternal God of the Bible who is Spirit, unchangeable, "from everlasting to everlasting". (John 4:24; Isa, 43:10; 44:6; 48:12 ; Ps. 103:17; Numb. 23:19.) Mormon-god is a man. They say that their God is a former mortal man, married with many wives, and they also say that all mankind and angels, Jesus included, are his children born to him and his wives in the preexistence, Jesus being his eldest son. [Note: The Bible says that God created Adam, he was not "born" to God. Gen. 1:27] Let's reason a bit: If the father-god of the Mormon Church is not eternal God of the Bible, then his son Jesus is not the Second Person of the Triune God, who became a man for our salvation. When Mormons say that Jesus is the Son of God, they mean that though he is the eldest, nevertheless he is just one of the billions of sons of their God, and a brother of all mankind and angels. They boldly teach that their

God the Father, who is an exalted man, came to the Virgin Mary and begot Jesus in the flesh “the same way mortal men are begotten by their mortal fathers”. This has been taught by the Mormon prophets from early on. Their fairly recent prophet, Ezra Taft Benson, in his book, *“Come Unto Christ”*, (on page 4), wrote, *“The body in which He (Jesus) performed His mission in the flesh was sired by the same Holy Being we worship as God, our Eternal Father. Jesus was not the son of Joseph, nor was He begotten by the Holy Ghost. He is the Son of the Eternal Father!”* (Emphasis added.)

The Mormon Church has taken stories about Jesus from the New Testament and attached them to *their Jesus who is not God who became a man for our salvation, but a man who became a god, as all Mormons also strive to become.*

Studying the Bible, book-by-book, verse-by-verse, and praying that the Holy Spirit will teach us as we read and study we can avoid becoming a victim of false religions. I fell for Mormonism, because I did not know, but took their word that their teaching is biblical.

There are many other cults and false religions *that also say they believe the Bible*, but Mormons add to it and say that *“they believe the Bible only as far as translated correctly”*, but when they are challenged, they cannot point to anything that is translated incorrectly. However, as it is with most people, that statement gives them an opening to *“twist the Scriptures”* and *make them say what they want them to say*. There are only a few people who could actually challenge them on that, for many have not studied the Bible enough to know what it, as a whole, teaches. *“Cults flourish because of biblical illiteracy.”*

We believe that we are living in the very end times that Jesus warned about, in Matthew 24 especially, and in the Book of Revelation... soon there might be one world Government and also one world Religion, and to get all in agreement requires deceptive ways to bring them into agreement. So-called *ecumenical movement* has been going on already for at least 15 or more years. *“Protestants denominations”* seem to be stopping their *protests* against the Roman Catholic Church and with many other denominations are meeting together with RC and talking about peace. This will require *the one world leader (anti-Christ)* and then a *false prophet* to gather all religions under one leadership so that eventually all agree that we *might believe the same anyway, and let’s just get along...*

We have noticed that there is now a video series, *The Chosen* that has been shown to many church groups that usually are not in agreement but they all seem to like this one.

Have any of you viewed *The Chosen, this 8-part video series, which has been presented as a true story of Jesus Christ?* It has been passed around and shown in many Christian churches and promoted even worldwide as a rare *Christian movie*. It was written and directed by Dallas Jenkins, who says that he is an evangelical Christian.

The Chosen was produced by VIDANGEL Studios, a Mormon owned video production company, and it was filmed near Utah-Lake at a movie production site that is also Mormon owned, built specifically for making religious movies to spread Mormon beliefs and Book of Mormon stories all around the world.

We have seen that many Christians are confused after seeing this video-series, and that many are now thinking that what Mormons teach of Jesus could be about the same Jesus they also believe in, especially since the writer and director of *The Chosen*, Dallas Jenkins, has said that he too now believes in the same Jesus that the Mormons believe!

Let’s think about this: Why is this movie about Jesus named “The Chosen”? Was there another one to choose instead of Jesus? The Bible teaches that Jesus is the Only Son of God, the Second Person of Trinity, divine yet human, born of the Virgin Mary and begotten by the Holy Ghost. He is the Only Son of God. There could be no other!

But according to the Mormon theology, all human beings on earth are sons and daughters of God, born to him and his wives in the “preexistence”. The LDS doctrinal book, *“The Gospel Through Ages”* (GTA), was

written and published under the direction of the First Presidency and 12 Apostles, i.e. the General Authorities of the Mormon Church for Melchizedek Priesthood quorums for teaching of and understanding who God is, and teaching how the members [of the Mormon Church] can also become gods, etc. and other LDS doctrinal teachings. From that book, pages 14-16, we read: “Knowing these facts, appointment of Jesus to be the Savior of the world was contested by one of the other sons of God. He was called Lucifer, son of the morning. Haughty, ambitious, and covetous of power and glory, this spirit-brother of Jesus desperately tried to become the Savior of mankind. At the great council he (Lucifer) proposed a new plan of salvation, one which was not based on eternal truth... In contrast to Lucifer’s plan of placing mortal beings on earth and bringing them back to God through no efforts of their own [i.e. without works], Jesus sustained God’s plan – the same one which had previously been followed in other worlds – of not interfering with the rights of intelligent beings to act for themselves [i.e. by doing works]...In this way, and in no other, Jesus maintained, could men grow and eventually become Godlike.” (The Gospel Through Ages (GTA), pp. 14-16. Emphasis added.) [Thus Jesus is THE CHOSEN - he was chosen over one of the other sons of God, Lucifer]. The Gospel Through Ages, pp 104-5, declares, “Mormon prophets have continuously taught the sublime truth that their God the Eternal Father was once a mortal man who passed through a school of earth life similar to that that we are now passing. He became a God – and exalted being – through obedience to the same eternal Gospel truths that we are given opportunity today to obey... One of the early apostles of Joseph Smith, Orson Hyde, said, ‘Remember that God our Heavenly Father was once a child, mortal like we are, and rose step by step in the scale of progress... until He has arrived at the point He now is...’ But probably the most forceful statement declaring God to be an exalted man was made by the Prophet Joseph Smith. To quote: ‘God Himself was once as we are now, and is an exalted man and sits enthroned in yonder heavens!... God Himself, the Father of us all, dwelt on an earth, the same as Jesus Christ Himself did...’ In June 1840, Lorenzo Snow formulated the famous couplet, ‘As man is, God once was; as God is, man may become’.” (GTA pp. 104-5. Emphasis added.)

But the Bible teaches, and thus we know, that Jesus is the Only Son of God; there is no other. We all are creations of God, but ever since the Fall of Adam, all men are born as his posterity, “children of the flesh”, (Rom. 9:8b), and they are not children of God until they come to know Jesus, repent and receive Him. Only then men can BECOME children of God (John 1:12-13) when they are born of the Holy Spirit of God. This is why Jesus said, “YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN (John 3:3, 7), and when we are born again, then we receive the Spirit of God. “God is Spirit”. (John 4:24.)

“Jesus of Mormonism” is not the biblical Jesus regardless of the stories they have taken from the New Testament of the life of the real Jesus, and attached them into their counterfeit Jesus presented in this movie, “The Chosen”. It is amazing to us that the screenwriter and producer of The Chosen, Dallas Jenkins, “an evangelical Christian”, says that he now believes in the same Jesus that the Mormons believe in!! By saying that he too is promoting a counterfeit Jesus and has lost his opportunity to witness to Mormons about the true Jesus who is God Almighty, the Only Savior. (Rev. 1:8; John 8:24; 14:6.) Why would any Mormon want to leave Mormonism if they already believe in the same Jesus as true born again Christians?

Christians who believe what is taught in the Bible about God, Jesus and salvation, and who also know what the Mormons believe about their God and Jesus, they ought to lovingly let Mormons know that Jesus they have been taught about is not God who became a man for our salvation, but instead a man who, according to LDS teachings, became a god. Christians who know this ought not to lose any opportunities they may have to witness to Mormons and tell them about Jesus of the Bible, who is God, and who alone saves. (John 1; 1, 14; 8:24; Matt. 1:23; John 14:6.) The only true Gospel is a message declared by Paul in 1 Cor. 15:1-4. That is the message that saves. (Eph. 2:8-9.) Mormon Doctrine, [under “salvation”, p. 670, quoting from Doctrines of Salvation, vol. 2, pp. 1-35, by Joseph Fielding Smith] declares, “If it had not been for Joseph Smith and the restoration, there would be no salvation. There is no salvation outside The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.” Thus the Mormon Church has announced that it is the only true church on the face of the whole earth. Their 3rd Article of Faith says, “mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the (LDS) Gospel.” There are no laws or ordinances in the true Gospel of

Christ! What we must let them know is that *there would be no salvation in believing what Mormonism teaches, especially about God, Jesus and salvation. We must help them to realize that they, in order to be saved, would have to change their religion to the Relationship with Jesus who is God with us, "For in Him dwells all the fullness of Godhead bodily".* (Col. 2:9.) Mormonism is just a "*here and now religion*", and as many say, "*it is a religion of good works*". But works do not save anyone, they only lead to "*self-righteousness*" and eventually to eternal damnation.

We have so much to be thankful for – we have been quite well physically and we have been encouraged by friends who have stopped by to see us, and many who have contacted us by phone or emails to make sure we are OK - and we are. Our ministry work is "never ending" and we are very thankful for that. It proves that the Lord still wants to use us, and He has blessed us abundantly, even over and above what we ask or think. We want to thank you, our friends and partners, who pray for us and help us in our needs. We pray for you every night and ask that the Lord rewards your faithfulness to Him and to us and our little ministry. We look forward to eternity with you all, but now we are thankful for every day we have to reach out and perhaps open some hearts and minds to *see Jesus and His love for them*. Our newsletters are written for you to perhaps also share with your friends and people that need hope in the Lord. We have been happy to hear from friends who have forwarded our newsletters to their "list of friends", who they have seen might be needing information that the Lord has given us to share. God will bless them, we are sure of that.

We continue to ask that you pray with us for many who are seeking the Lord's help and comfort both physically and emotionally. I will ask that you'd pray for Judy, Marlene, Jamie, Mary, Heber, Mark, Virve, Al, Sandy, Emily and her unbelieving family, Suzi, Shaije and Aira and our Christian friends in Australia. The Lord is fully aware of each one of them and their requests to Him, and He will respond to them according to their needs, just as He has promised. "*This is the confidence we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*" (1 John 5:14-15.) We can count on that!

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem/Israel". (Ps. 122:6.) Go to Amir Tsarfati's site: www.beholdisrael@org. **NEWS CLIP** of November 28th, 2021: *Iran's Army's spokesman said: "The destruction of Israel is the greatest goal before us that we are striving for, and we are not backing down one millimeter, even if we are torn to pieces...false Zionist regime must disappear and it will surely disappear. The Islamic world will celebrate this day."* Note: The news media will not report this, at last not yet! To get Amir's daily updates via your cellphone, go to App store and download Telegram App, and search for Amir Tsarfati and click on "follow".

We will continue with *end times* and an important story of Israel in our January newsletter, God willing.

NOTE: The Berean Call Ministry is going to have their Executive Director Tom McMahon's article on *The Chosen* in their December 2021 newsletter. He wrote it from his own professional screenwriter's point of view. **If you are not on The Berean Call's regular subscriber list, you can find it from www.thebereancall.org**

We wish you all a blessed Christmas as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus, and pray for peace in the World even in the midst "wars and rumors of wars". (Matt. 24:6.) We celebrate our God loving us so much (John 3:16) that He became a man to die for our sins for "*the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*" (Rom. 6:23; 3:23.) He paid it all for everyone who willingly comes to Him, confessing their sins and gives their lives into His hands. (Eph. 2:8-10.) "*Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name.*" (Ps. 100:4.)

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