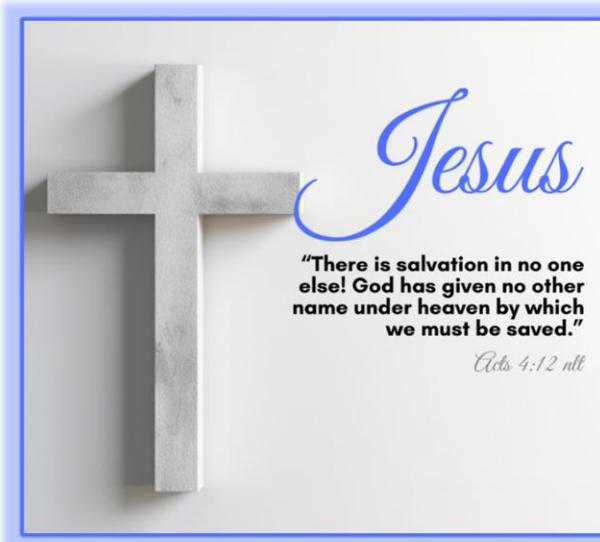


Welcome



"There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved."

Acts 4:12 nlt

Sunday 10:30am & 6pm

*Coffee & Donuts Fellowship before Sunday Morning Service
Sunday Services Streamed Live*

Wednesday 6pm



NewDayClaremore.church



729 S Moretz Ave † PO Box 754 † Claremore, OK 74018-0754

New Years Eve

Be with us this New Years Eve Wednesday December 31, 6pm. Let's come together on this last night of 2025, say Goodbye to 2025 together, and prepare our hearts and mind for what the Lord has for us as we go into 2026.

LET'S DO OUR PART TO
MAKE HEAVEN CROWDED!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY this coming week: Clyde "CW" Jan 1st

Wednesday Bible Study will resume January 7, 2026

Chapter 28 - How to Sear a Conscience

In the section Our Response to God's Word

The clarity and strength of our conscience can be altered. Our sensitivity is strengthened by holy fear, and conversely, is dulled by the lack thereof.

When men no longer fear God, they transgress His laws without hesitation. The fear of consequences is no deterrent when the fear of God is gone. A.W. Tozer

WHAT DOES MERRY MEAN? - BILLY GRAHAM DEVOTION

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God . . . - Luke 2:13

When at this season of the year we wish our friends a "Merry Christmas," it is essential to realize that true merriment of heart is contingent upon the recognition of the truth that Christ was born in Bethlehem for our salvation. The word "merry" is from an old Anglo-Saxon word which sometimes meant "famous," "illustrious," "great," or "mighty." Originally, to be merry did not imply to be merely mirthful, but strong and gallant. It was in this sense that gallant soldiers were called "merry men." Favorable weather was called "merry weather." Brisk winds were called a "merry gale." Spenser speaks of London as "merry London." The word "merry" carries with it the double thought of "might" and "mirth," and is used both ways in Scripture. One of the early Christmas carols was "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen." The Christian is to engage in spiritual merriment as he thinks upon the fact that, through the redemption, he becomes a child of God's family. The Bible teaches that the angels made merry at Christ's birth.

Prayer: This Christmas my heart is indeed merry when I think of Your birth, dear Lord. I rejoice with the angels and praise Your holy name!

THE 'THREE KINGS,' BIBLICAL DETAILS SURROUNDING JESUS' BIRTH

Where did we get the idea that there were three wise men? Three gifts, frankincense, myrrh, and gold. It doesn't say three wise men. Pastor and author Max Lucado shares, "We do not know if it was a trio of travelers or if there was two or 10. We do know that they came in search of Christ."



Did the magi meet Jesus on the night of His birth? "Did they show up on the day Christ was born?" Lucado asked rhetorically. "Odds are they did not. It would have taken quite a while, but we don't know when they started and when they arrived."

Historian William Federer said King Herod's decree documented in Matthew 2 provides important clues about the wisemen's arrival. "We don't know the exact timing, but, based on Herod — when he inquires of the wise men, when the Messiah was born, based on that, he decides to kill all babies two years and younger. And, so, it could have been up to two years after Jesus's birth that the three wise men came."

Plus, there's some ambiguity surrounding Mary's and Joseph's trip to Bethlehem before Christ's birth. We love to fill in the blanks... sometimes there's creative license. When people think about Mary and Joseph, there are some perceptions. You know, Mary was either on a donkey or a camel, but the Bible doesn't say that. Mary, being "so heavy with child" would have needed the help of a wagon or animal to make the trip.

And that's not all. While retellings often show Mary giving birth right after reaching Bethlehem, Pastor Shane Idleman offers a caveat: we simply don't know how long they were in Bethlehem before having Jesus. "We assume that right when she got there [she said], 'I feel the contractions' ... But it doesn't really say that ... Of course, there's no lodging, the place is full, and, so, that's when they find themselves basically in a stable, and we don't even know the condition of the stable, but that's how they ended up there."

Jesus was born in a cave, we call it a stable, but it was most likely a cave — a place where the shepherds would come out of the weather at night. Luke 2:7 also tells us Mary wrapped Jesus in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, a feeding trough for animals.

All of this brings us to our final point of discussion: whether December 25 is truly the date of Christ's birth. "We just don't know. Ancient Christmases would bounce from date to date before landing on December 25th," Lucado added. "Some of the early church fathers really promoted dates in March and, for centuries, the Eastern Orthodox Church celebrated on January 6th and some still do."

Regardless, it's the intentional worship and remembrance of Christ's birth — and not the precise date — that truly matter. "**Our heavenly father is really focused on the fact that the word became flesh — He became flesh.**"

None of these misconceptions take away from the central message of Christmas — that God sent his son to save humanity from our sins. Still, it's helpful to know what Scripture truly details.

SHOCK DATA AFTER CHARLIE KIRK ASSASSINATION

David Kinnaman, CEO of Barna Group, shared the impact of Kirk's death across different generations, exploring the dynamic two months after the assassination.

"We find that 29% of Americans report taking some sort of action as a result of his death in general, and spiritual responses were outpacing political ones," Kinnaman said.

Practicing Christians were even more likely to say they took a moment to reflect or took political or spiritual action because of Kirk's death. Kinnaman said these statistics were relatively shocking as few events have such a massive impact on the American populace. New York City-based Pastor Mike Signorelli told CBN News earlier this year that he saw 533 people accept Jesus during the first Sunday after Kirk's murder.

Kinnaman said the data and events show that "something that is stirring in our society as people are interested in Jesus." "We see it reflected in some Bible reading increases," he said. "We see it in churchgoing increases. We see it overall ... among young people."

These are the days we have been praying for. We are praying that our kids and grandkids, would find Christ, would find a vitality to their faith, to their Christianity, and we're seeing openness bubble up across our society, and we can continue to pray that God would make the most of that.

WHERE DOES YOUR HOPE LIE? - BILLY GRAHAM DEVOTION

**Blessed is the man who trusteth in the Lord,
and whose hope the Lord is. - Jeremiah 17:7**

The Scriptures predict that a new day is coming. There will be a golden age of prosperity when all perplexing problems-religious, social, or political-will find their complete solution. It will be a marvelous time for this mixed-up world. However, the Bible teaches that man will not bring about this coming golden age. Man alone cannot. The flaw in human nature is too great. Man has no ability to repair this damaged planet. God is our only hope! His plans are already formed, and they are perfectly stated in the Scriptures.

Prayer: All my hope and plans are laid at Your feet, Lord Jesus.

EXPECT something from the LORD!

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