



The world needs a miracle

The first century world into which Jesus was born was no different, morally and spiritually, from our twenty first century. It was in a mess. Who can deny the mess of our day? Terrorism, rampant crime, greed in business, broken families ... the list is endless. Every copy of a newspaper and every TV news programme emphasises the mess we're in.

Why is this? It's not because of economic, social or political reasons—the problem is spiritual. Rich and poor, we're all in the same spiritual and moral mess, and no one has an answer.

No one, that is, except God. God has the answer. Mankind is in need of a miracle so that our natures can be changed to want what is good and hate what is evil. But where will such a miracle come from?

Only God can supply this miracle

Our problem is our sin, all the wrong things we do. God sent his Son Jesus into the world to deal with this sin.

Jesus had to bear the guilt and punishment our sin deserved, and in order to do this Jesus had to become a man. He had to have a human nature as well as a divine nature. His birth as a tiny baby at Bethlehem showed that this was the case.

Jesus then became our representative and took full responsibility for our sin. On the cross, he died as our sin-bearer, as our substitute. He took our punishment and purchased for us a full and free pardon. That's the miracle of the grace of God in the Lord Jesus Christ.

*Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.*

The Christmas miracle today

This isn't a fairy story. It is very, very real. There is, even for us today, the possibility of salvation. Salvation means being saved from the consequences of our sin. It means being acceptable to God, and only Jesus can make this possible for us.

People today have difficulty believing in miracles. While books like Harry Potter always top the sales charts, the Bible's emphasis upon the supernatural is dismissed as impossible. The miraculous and supernatural are all right in stories, but we can't be expected to take them seriously.

We think that if we can't do miracles, then neither can God. We impose our human limitations upon God. But God isn't like us, and nowhere is this seen more clearly than in the Christmas story.

The miracle of Christmas is that God became man

This is the greatest miracle of all, and if we can believe this, then every other miracle becomes inevitable.

Jesus is the only Saviour because
He is the only Saviour God has
provided.
He alone is both God and man, and
so...
He is the only one who could possibly
achieve salvation for us.

**What God offered that
first Christmas 2000 years
ago, he still offers
today—the day of
salvation is not yet over**

It may be that up until now Christmas
has meant nothing more to you than
excessive drinking and eating. You
have never understood the miracle of
Christmas because you've never seen
your need of a saviour. But listen,
Christmas is not about food and drink,
it's about sin—our sin; and it's about
God's love and mercy in dealing with
that sin.

If you've read this far, it may be
because you are tired of the
materialism in the world and are
looking for an answer.

The answer is Jesus. You need Jesus.

The way to find Jesus as your Saviour
is...
See your need, and see that your sin is
taking you to hell.
See that only Jesus can deal with that
sin.
Ask Jesus for forgiveness and pardon.
Ask with a serious desire to be free
from sin.

Now, finally, listen to the promise of
God ...

Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake his way
and the evil man his thoughts.
Let him turn to the LORD, and he will
have mercy on him,
and to our God, for he will freely
pardon
(Isaiah 55:6-7).



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