

# Lessons from Christmas

*John 1:1-5, 14*

## INTRODUCTION

### **J.I. Packer**

“The Christmas message is that there is hope for a ruined humanity—hope of pardon, hope of peace with God, hope of glory—because at the Father’s will Jesus became poor, and was born in a stable so that thirty years later He might hang on a cross.”

Christmas is a message of hope, of renewal, of redemption. When we think of the Cross and the Resurrection, it means nothing, if we haven’t properly first thought about Christmas.

We often think of Christmas centrally around a baby in a manger, but today I want to encourage us into thinking of Christmas primarily in the wonders that is God.

### **John MacArthur**

“If we could condense all the truths of Christmas into only three words, these would be the words: “God with us.” We tend to focus our attention at Christmas on the infancy of Christ. The greater truth of the holiday is His deity. More astonishing than a baby in the manger is the truth that this promised baby is the omnipotent Creator of the heavens and the earth!”

Christmas is a jolt to human history because in this one of event we see the nature and character of God. There are many lessons to learn from the Christmas message, and I want to address just a few of these lessons this morning.

### ***John 1:1-5***

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through Him, and apart from Him not one thing was created that has been created. Life was in Him, and that life was the light of men. That light shines in the darkness, yet the darkness did not overcome it...

### ***John 1:14***

The Word became flesh and took up residence among us. We observed His glory, the glory as the One and Only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

## I. Limited for Love

### ***1 John 4:7-8***

Dear friends, let us love one another, because love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

### ***Romans 5:8-9***

But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us! Much more then, since we have now been declared righteous by His blood, we will be saved through Him from wrath.

## **II. Hidden by Humility**

### ***Philippians 2:5-9***

Make your own attitude that of Christ Jesus,

who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be used for His own advantage. Instead He emptied Himself by assuming the form of a slave, taking on the likeness of men.

And when He had come as a man in His external form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death—even to death on a cross. For this reason God highly exalted Him and gave Him the name.

## **III. The Giver is the Gift**

### **C.S. Lewis**

If there were a higher good than God, God would give us that, but since He is the highest good then He gives us Himself.

### ***Isaiah 9:6***

For a child is born to us, a Son is given to us. The government will rest on His shoulders. And He will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## **IV. The Maker Meets Us Where We Are**

## **CONCLUSION**

### **Oren Arnold**

“Christmas gift suggestions: to your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect.”

### **Dan Schaeffer**

“Christmas celebrates the awesome and amazing fact that God is grander, wiser and more mysterious than we could have ever imagined.”