

Don't Forget the Wonder of Christmas! – Part 3

John 1; Matthew 2; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 12-24-23

*Infinite and infant. Oh, the wonder of Christmas!
There is nothing little in God; His mercy is like Himself; it is infinite.
You cannot measure it. – Charles Spurgeon*

1. Don't forget the Name on the manger.

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in **His name**, - John 1:12

What is the Name on the manger?

The Word. – John 1:14

A 'word' reveals what is unseen: our thoughts, our feelings, our heart!

The Lamb. – John 1:29

A 'lamb' is an animal used in sacrifices as a substitute for someone so that they don't have to die!

The King. – John 1:49

A 'king' is someone who is in charge of a nation or a people who makes promises and gives commands.

2. Don't forget that receiving is believing.

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in **His name**, - John 1:12

Why didn't they receive Him? – Matthew 2:1-16; Luke 19:1-48

Why should we receive Him as our King?

Jesus is the I AM of the Old Testament and the I AM of the New Testament.

Blessed be the LORD your God who delighted in you to set you on the throne of Israel; because the LORD loved Israel forever, therefore He made you king, to do justice and righteousness." – 1 Kings 10:9

3. Don't forget to act like a child.

But as many as received Him, **to them He gave the right to become children of God**, *even* to those who believe in His name, - John 1:12

What kind of Father/King do we have?

- One who turns water to wine* (John 2:10-11). Would you act more like a child if you believed that your Father/King was able and willing to turn everything into joy for you?
- One who heals a royal official's son* (John 4:49-50). Would you act more like a child if you believed that your Father/King was able and willing to heal all that ails you?
- One who heals a disabled man at the Bethesda Pool* (John 5:7-9). Would you act more like a child if you believed that your Father/King was able and willing to enable you to do what you can't do on your own?
- One who feeds the 5,000* (John 6:10-11). Would you act more like a child if you believed that your Father/King was able and willing to meet all your daily needs regardless of the circumstances?
- One who walks on water* (John 6:19-21). Would you act more like a child if you believed that your Father/King was able and willing to overcome nature and do the supernatural when necessary?
- One who heals a blind man* (John 9:6-7). Would you act more like a child if you believed that your Father/King was able and willing to open your eyes to see what you can't see?
- One who resurrects Lazarus* (John 11:43-44). Would you act more like a child if you believed that your Father/King was able and willing to raise you from the deadness in your heart and in your body and give you real life?

What we usually associate with the condition of childhood at its best (Matthew 18:3):

- A child can't do everything.
- A child doesn't know everything.
- A child lives each day being told what to do.
- A child is happily dependent. – Psalm 131:1-3; 1 Peter 5:7

The life of a child is the gift within the Gift of Jesus! (1 John 3:1)

The Wonder of Christmas: The Love of God

The wonder of Christmas is the "Name" on the manger and His name is "Love":

The Wonder of the Love of Complacency: God takes great pleasure in all those who entrust themselves to His Son and loves them just as He loves His own Son. The Father loves the King and takes pleasure in all who trust Him for salvation and satisfaction! – John 3:35; John 16:27; Luke 2:14; Romans 8:31-39

Have you received Jesus your King? Are you resting and relying on and rejoicing in Him?