

**Christmas Eve
Service
God With Us, Supplies All Needed To Reveal Him
To A Lost and Dark World.**

Philippians 4:19-20 (NASB)

¹⁹ *And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.*

²⁰ *Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

Philippians 2:13 (NASB)

¹³ *for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.*

As we gather here this evening, it is with great celebration, and anticipation. We look back to the moment in time when God sent His only begotten Son into the world as a babe in a manger. Recognizing that when He was born He became God with us, "Emmanuel". And when He became Emmanuel, He brought Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace because those are His attributes. So God with us brings all of that into this dark world at the proper time. In God's time.

The reason:

Romans 5:1-9 (MaceNT)

¹ Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God, through our Lord Jesus Christ,

² who has given us access by faith to that degree of favour, we are in, by which we triumph in the hopes of divine glory.

³ and not only so, but we triumph in tribulation also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience, probation;

⁴ and probation, hope:

⁵ now hope will not deceive us, because the love of God is diffused thro' our hearts, by the holy spirit which is given to us;

⁶ for at the appointed time Christ died for us, when we were in a helpless, sinful state.

⁷ now for a wicked man no one would willingly die; but for a benefactor some have readily offer'd to die.

⁸ but herein hath God displayed his love towards us, in that Christ died for us, even while we were yet sinners.

⁹ much more then being now justified by his blood, shall we thro' him be delivered from the wrath to come.

All of this is that God's timetable is perfect and in that timetable He provided a Saviour which is Christ The Lord. And He came full of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace for all.

The Angels announced it.

Luke 2:8-14 (MaceNT)

⁸ *In that country there were shepherds lying in the open fields, taking their turns to watch the stock in the night;*

⁹ *when all of a sudden an angel of the Lord appear'd to them, and a heavenly light shone about them, at which they were greatly affrighted.*

¹⁰ *but the angel said to them, be not afraid, I am only come to bring you great news, which will be matter of joy to you and to the whole world.*

¹¹ *for the Lord Messiah your saviour is this day born, in the city of David:*

¹² *and by this sign shall you know him; you will find the babe swathed, lying in a manger.*

¹³ *All of a sudden an army of celestial beings join'd the angel, singing praises to God, and saying,*

¹⁴ *"glory to God in the heavens, and to men on earth felicity in the divine favour."*

Tonight we celebrate that momentous occasion, The Savior born on that first Christmas Eve.

And because we realize who He was and what He came for, we now have a message to the World, Behold your Savior, Behold your God.

Not only did He come to execute the perfect plan of God for mankind's return to Him, but also to give him the needed boldness, and courage, and power to make that plan known to the world. We were called upon to make it known to all men everywhere. No exceptions.

And we are to do this until He comes again. That is the second reason we meet here tonight. It is to praise the Lord and wait for His coming again.

And to do that, we needed the Holy Spirit to empower us and to be our strength as we do not have that within ourselves. We need the wisdom of God, we need the love of God, we need the hope of His coming again, and we need the peace to know that while in this world we are ok, kept by Him. And that knowledge produces Joy unspeakable and full of Glory as the song says.

1 Thessalonians 3:10-13 (NLT2)

¹⁰ Night and day we pray earnestly for you, asking God to let us see you again to fill the gaps in your faith.

¹¹ May God our Father and our Lord Jesus bring us to you very soon.

¹² And may the Lord make your love for one another and for all people grow and overflow, just as our love for you overflows.

¹³ May he, as a result, make your hearts strong, blameless, and holy as you stand before God our Father when our Lord Jesus comes again with all his holy people. Amen.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 (Phillips NT)

¹³ Now we don't want you, my brothers, to be in any doubt about those who "fall asleep" in death, or to grieve over them like men who have no hope. After all, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again from death, then we can believe that God will just as surely bring with Jesus all who are "asleep" in him. Here we have a definite message from the Lord. It is that those who are still living when he comes will not in any way precede those who have previously fallen asleep. One word of command, one shout from the archangel, one blast from the trumpet of God and the Lord himself will come down from Heaven! Those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then we who are still living on the earth will be swept up with them into the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And after that we shall be with him for ever.

If this is all true then what kind of people should we be?

Well Paul writes it out for Timothy, and to us who follow years later.

2 Timothy 1:6-10 (NASB)

⁶ For this reason I remind you to kindle afresh the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

⁷ For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God,

⁹ who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity,

¹⁰ but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

2 Timothy 2:1-13 (NASB)

¹ You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

² The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

³ *Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.*

⁴ *No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him as a soldier.*

⁵ *Also if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not win the prize unless he competes according to the rules.*

⁶ *The hard-working farmer ought to be the first to receive his share of the crops.*

⁷ *Consider what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything.*

⁸ *Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel,*

⁹ *for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned.*

¹⁰ *For this reason I endure all things for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with it eternal glory.*

¹¹ *It is a trustworthy statement: For if we died with Him, we will also live with Him;*

¹² *If we endure, we will also reign with Him; If we deny Him, He also will deny us;*

¹³ *If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.*

There we have it, Jesus Christ came and brought Hope, Love, Joy and Peace, then leaving He sent the Holy Spirit to be with us and to empower us, and teach us, and give us confidence in Christ to carry a message of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace to a dying world. And we are to faithfully do so until He comes again.

We lit the last candle Tonight, which speaks of the first coming of the Savior, and while celebrating that we also look forward with great anticipation His coming again. And in the meantime we need to sound the warning. A Savior has come, give your life and heart to Him now, so when He comes again, you will be a part of His kingdom and a part of His family. And will spend Eternity with Him and in His presence. I challenge you this evening if you do not have that relationship you need to do so by confessing your sin, and repenting and surrendering your life completely to a loving Savior. One Who loved you before you were born, One who loved you even in your sin. One who came that first Christmas eve to save you and to bring you into His kingdom and family. You need to pay attention to this it is eternally important.