

December 2011

From the Pastor



A Very Special Day

Christmas is a precious time of the year. It is often considered a time for children, because it is a time of imagination and a time of wonder. Christmas is not only for children; it is for everyone.

What is it that makes Christmas so wonderful? It's special, because on Christmas we celebrate something so incredible that it doesn't seem real.

We live in a universe that doesn't seem to have an end. It is huge, and we are on a small planet at the end of a galaxy in this universe. This universe was created by a powerful and creative God.

Now here comes the incredible thing. That mighty Creator loves all the human beings (that He Himself created) who live on this small planet. He wants a relationship with every one of us.

The problem is that if God showed up in all His glory, we would probably be so overwhelmed we would die. God told Moses, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live! (Exodus 33:20 NAU)."

So God came to earth in a way that we could relate to Him. In fact He came in a way that would not threaten any person.

Look at these words that came from a mighty angel as he was speaking to a group of first century shepherds.

"¹⁰Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; ¹¹for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger (Luke 2:10-12 NAU)."



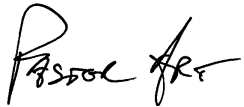
God Himself came to earth in the form of a newborn. Newborns are cute. Newborns are wonderful. Newborns are not threatening.

God wants us to know Him. God took on human form, so we can relate to Him. If you want to know what God is like, take time to read the gospels and study the life of Jesus. When you study the life of Jesus, something wonderful could happen. One of the gospel writers puts it this way.

³⁰ Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name (John 20:30-31 NAU)

Christmas is all about God coming to earth as a human, so we as humans could understand Him and come to know Him personally. That makes Christmas wonderful and special for all of us.

In Him and for His glory,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor Aré". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.