

Fill in the missing letters to this Christmas acrostic.

C

H

R

I

S

T

M

A

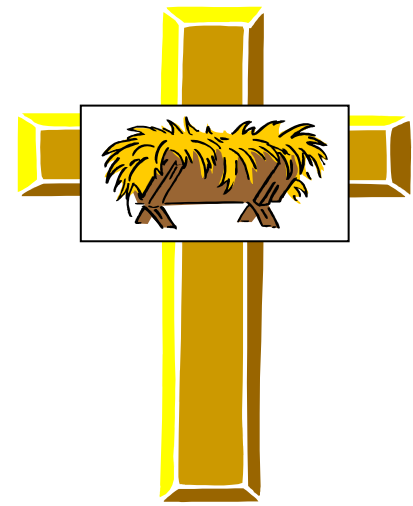
S

MARY	JOSEPH	MANGER
BETHLEHEM	INFANT	ANGELS
CROSS	STAR	SHEPHERDS

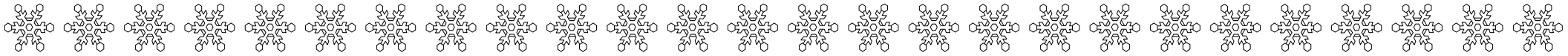
DAILY BIBLE STUDIES

December 20-26, 2009

"CHRISTMAS AND THE CROSS"



Selected Scripture



THE LORD'S DAY

I'm sure you would agree that "Christmas" is one of the most anticipated days of the year. Unfortunately, Christmas is no longer about Christ, it has become more about "self". This week we will learn about why Christmas was necessary. We will learn about the reason for the first "Christmas" day. Read **Luke chapter 2**.

What did I learn from these verses today?

Prayer Starter: Dear Lord, Teach me from Your Word.

MONDAY

Galatians 4:4-5 contains everything we need to know about why we celebrate Christmas. Verse 4 starts by telling us that God sent Jesus to the world at the perfect time--His time. God had everything all set for Jesus to become a man and be born as a baby on earth. Read **Galatians 4:4-5**.

What did I learn from these verses today?

Prayer Starter: Lord, thank You for sending Jesus to be born as a baby on this earth.

TUESDAY

Christmas was not the first day of Jesus' life. Jesus already existed as part of the Trinity. We know this because it says in **Galatians 4:4-5** that Jesus was "sent" by the Father. You have to exist to be sent. We learned all about this earlier this year in our study of John. Read **Philippians 2:6-7** which also talks about Jesus as being part of the Trinity.

What did I learn from these verses today?

Prayer Starter: Lord, thank You for leaving Your throne in Heaven to come to Earth.

WEDNESDAY

Galatians 4:4-5 gives us two truths about Jesus earthly life. It says He was "born of a woman" and He was "born under the law". These phrases tell us that Jesus was both fully God and fully man. He needed to be both in order to be a perfect sacrifice for sin. That is why we refer to Jesus as the "God-Man". It also tells us that He was to obey the laws of God just like everyone else on the earth.

What did I learn from these verses today?

Prayer Starter: Lord, Thank You for becoming the perfect sacrifice by becoming the God-Man.

THURSDAY

In **Galatians 4:5** we get the real reason that Jesus came into the world, "to redeem those who were under the law". All of mankind is guilty and condemned and in need of a Savior. We can't save ourselves. We could never pay the debt we owe for our sin to God, but Jesus could. That is why He died on the Cross. He bore God's wrath for the sins of all those who would believe in Him. Read **Galatians 3:13**, **Romans 8:15,23**, and **Ephesians 1:5**.

What did I learn from these verses today?

Prayer Starter: Lord, Thank You for being the substitute for all sinners who repent.

FRIDAY

1 Timothy 1:15 is a great "Christmas" verse because it too expresses the reason for Christ to come into the world. Notice how Paul calls himself the "chief of sinners". He had been a murderer and blasphemer. Before a man can be saved he must realize that he is a worthless, nasty, filthy sinner who is unworthy of God's forgiveness. Read **Matthew 9:13** and **Luke 19:10**.

What did I learn from these verses today?

Prayer Starter: Lord, Help me to understand my unworthiness and my need for forgiveness before You.

SATURDAY

In **2 Corinthians 9:15** Paul talks to the believers in Corinth about giving. He compares their giving with God's giving of His Son. It was a costly, sacrificial gift, His most treasured possession. A lot of gifts will be given this Christmas, but the greatest gift is Jesus Christ! As believers we can truly know what it means to have a Merry Christmas.

What did I learn from these verses today?

Prayer Starter: Lord, Thank You for the most perfect gift of all-- Jesus Christ!

memory verse

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"

2 Corinthians 9:15