

# **Saint Timothy Lutheran – Edmonds, WA**

December 25, 2009 – “Christmas Day”

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## **“See, Your Savior Comes!”**

(Text: Isaiah 62:10-12)

**Context:** The prophet Isaiah wrote his prophecy, first to warn the children of Israel of the coming destruction of Jerusalem, the Temple, and their upcoming captivity and slavery, all because of their unfaithfulness toward God. Then, Isaiah wrote of God’s deliverance. God would, after a time, free and rescue His people. He would send a Savior to save them. God used Isaiah to speak of the physical deliverance that Cyrus, the new Persian ruler, would bring about for the enslaved Hebrews, but also Isaiah spoke of the coming Savior of the world, the Messiah.

### **I. Cast Out Ones, Imprisoned Ones, The-Lower-Than-The-Low Ones, Find Little Reason For Hope.**

- A. The Hebrews wandered away from trusting in the one true God.
  - 1. They worshiped the pagan gods of their neighbors.
  - 2. They made political alliances with foreign powers against God’s counsel and advice.
  - 3. They fell to the pagan powers of their day.
  - 4. Their city and country were captured, overrun, and demolished.
  - 5. They were scattered and many were enslaved and taken far away.
- B. They felt abandoned, forgotten, and insignificant.
  - 1. Today, for various reasons, many people are feeling lost, forgotten, and insignificant even (perhaps especially) in this holiday season.
- C. The promise of God was first for the Hebrews, but is, also, for all peoples.
  - 1. When the angel announced the birth of a Savior to the shepherds outside of Bethlehem, he said, “Glory to God in the highest and peace, good will toward men” (Luke 2:14).

### **II. God Promised And On The First Christmas He Delivered On His Promise.**

- A. God became a man. (“Immanuel” means “God with us.”)
- B. This baby grew up and lived a life without sin.
- C. This grown child bore the penalty of all people’s sins on His person for us.
  - 1. He made the full payment for sin on the cross.
  - 2. Because He was totally God and totally Man, His sacrifice was sufficient for all human beings.
- D. This Savior was raised on the third day after His death.
  - 1. The resurrection of this Savior proves:
    - a. That all that He taught was true.
    - b. That God has accepted His payment for sin.
    - c. That we, too, shall live after we die.
- E. The formerly enslaved in sin ones shall be called:
  - 1. The holy people...
  - 2. The redeemed of the Lord...
  - 3. “Sought out”
  - 4. “A city not forsaken”
- F. How many people do you know this Christmas who need to hear of a Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?
- G. How many people actually hear the message of God becoming a man in order to save people from their sins amidst the store sales, shopping, gift-wrapping, attending extra events, meal preparations, and setting up of decorations?

H. Does Jesus' birth mean anything more? May you and I celebrate "the more" this entire year. Glory to God in the highest! Peace, good will toward men!