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December 2008

Christmas... something to really celebrate!

I wonder how you will celebrate Christmas! As a child I loved the excitement of Christmas Day. The family gathered at my grandparents' home - delicious food - presents - games - I loved it!

Only when I became a Christian as a young man did I realize why Christmas should be a one of the happiest days in the year. The reason, of course, is because this is when Christians celebrate the coming into the world of the Lord Jesus to save us.

The Bible - God's message to the world - puts it like this: *For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.*

From the Bible we know that God's eternal Son left the magnificent splendour of heaven for a village carpenter's home. A lovely carol puts it like this - *He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all... Why did He come? Why did he become poor? The clear answer: He became poor so that you through his poverty might become rich.*

How can we benefit from God's Son entering our world? The simple reply is that *to all who received him (the Lord Jesus Christ), to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.*

Jesus came to bear the punishment that we deserve so that by believing in Him we can be forgiven and become truly rich!

May God bless you and give you a truly Happy Christmas.

George Rabey - Pastor



**We invite you
to join us for our
Carol service
on Sunday 14th December
at 3.00 p.m.
Refreshments will follow**

Once in Royal David's City

Cecil Frances Humphreys Alexander

Henry John Gauntlett

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
5 Where a Mo - ther laid her Ba - by In a man - ger for His bed;
9 Ma - ry was that Mo - ther mild, Je - sus Christ her on - ly Child

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Once in Royal David's City'. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff begins with a measure rest marked '5'. The third staff begins with a measure rest marked '9'. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a church service.

Chapel Services

**Sunday services are at 11.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
(3.00 p.m. on 14th and 21st Dec)**

**Sundays 11 a.m. to 12 noon Good News Group
(Children 3 years and over)**

**Tuesdays 6.45 to 8.30 p.m. Tuesday Bible Club
(Children 8 years and over)**

Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study

Contacts

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