

*Happy
Christmas*



Christmas... but why did Jesus come?

"The Incredible Journey" by Sheila Burnford describes how three pets, determined to be reunited with their owners, travelled 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness, to get home. A lovely Christmas carol tells of **the** most incredible 'journey' made by the King of Heaven - the Lord Jesus Christ - about 2,000 years ago.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and His shelter was a stable,
and His cradle was a stall.

The pets' objective is clear - but why would *The God and Lord of all* - come to earth? The answer is revealed in the name given to God's Son prior to His birth in Bethlehem.

Before Jesus was born an angel appeared to Mary, the virgin chosen to be His mother, and to Joseph, her fiancé, telling of the birth of the baby and what His name should be. The angel explained the significance of the choice to Joseph saying *you shall call His name Jesus, (the name means Saviour) for He shall save His people from their sins.*

Jesus confirmed this reason for His coming, telling His friends that He came *to give His life a ransom for many.* What does this mean? The Bible teaches that every one of us has sinned and is responsible for what we have done. *The soul that sins shall die.* The wonderful message of Christmas is that Jesus came to pay the ransom for our sins by suffering a terrible death for us. If we repent of our sins and trust the Lord Jesus we are completely free from the penalty due to us.

We hope you will join us as we celebrate the coming of the Lord Jesus this Christmas!

Sincerely, **George Rabey (Pastor)**

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle-shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for His bed.
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and His shelter was a stable,
and His cradle was a stall.
With the poor, and mean, and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
through His own redeeming love;
for that child, so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above;
and He leads His children on
to the place where He has gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see Him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars His children crowned
all in white shall wait around.





*You are invited to join us for our
Carol Service at Five Ash Down Chapel
on Sunday 11th December at 3.00 p.m.*

Refreshments will follow

Five Ash Down Chapel Services

Sunday services are at 11.00 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

(3.00pm on 11th & 18th Dec)

Sundays 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon Good News Group

(Children 3 years and over)

Thursdays 7.30 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study

Contacts

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