



## Christmas...

The very special (and enjoyable!) time of the year when Christians celebrate one of the most incredible events that has ever occurred, the birth of God's eternal Son, the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ into our world.

Jesus was unique. Every other human being's existence began at the moment of conception. God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is eternal. There never was a moment when He did not exist. God has revealed this truth in the Book He has given to us, the Bible.

The apostle John tells us in the first chapter of his Gospel that He (the Lord Jesus Christ) *became flesh* (a human being) *and lived among us. He was in the world - and the world was made by Him - and the world did not know Him.* An amazing statement we know is true because it is in the Bible. God cannot lie!

He was born into a working-class family. Joseph was a carpenter engaged to be married to Mary when she was told that she, a virgin, was to be the mother of the Son of God. Later she and Joseph would have children in the usual way, but the Bible categorically states that God was the Father of Mary's first born child.

But... why? Why did the eternal Son of God come to earth? The Bible explains in many places - for example one verse says *He who was rich became poor so that we, through His poverty might become rich.* Rich? He is the Creator of all things! Everything in the entire universe belongs to Him! *The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.* It all belongs to the Baby born in Bethlehem that first Christmas.

I love the way the apostle John puts it: *He came unto His own* (the Jewish nation) *and His own did not receive Him, but as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those that believe on His name.* He became a man - so that everyone who would truly believe on Him would be a child of God forever!

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes on Him should not perish (be eternally punished for their sins) but have everlasting life.*

This is the message that has been proclaimed in the Chapel for over 200 years... Please join us this Christmas and whenever you can!

Happy 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.

## Contacts

George Rabey (Pastor)                      Tel: 07884 968241  
Elwyn Sweetman (Secretary) Tel: 01825 733391

[www.fiveashdownchapel.org.uk](http://www.fiveashdownchapel.org.uk)

[george.rabey@talktalk.net](mailto:george.rabey@talktalk.net)

**You are invited to join us  
for our Carol Service  
at Five Ash Down Chapel  
on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec)**

**Good News Group**

**Sundays 11.00 a.m. to 12 noon  
(Children 3 years and over)**

**Prayer and Bible Study**

**Thursdays 7.30 p.m.**