

PASTOR'S LETTER DECEMBER, 2022

It Is The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year



This will show my age, but here it is, I think the Andy Williams' Christmas Album is the best. It is pure gold. Like many of you, I grew up watching the Andy Williams Show, and it reruns. Do you remember? And who can forget the Cookie Bear? Here's a little trivia for you, how many Christmas Albums did Andy William produce? One? Two? Three? No, he actually made eight Christmas albums. Yes, Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year.

However, in the Christian tradition, we also celebrate the Advent season. This year it begins on November 27 and goes all the way to Christmas Eve where we celebrate and anticipate not only the birth of the baby Jesus but also the future coming Messiah, Jesus. You see, for a Christian not only is Christmas important but just as important is Advent.

Here are two Bible verses that speak of the future coming Messiah, 1 Thessalonians 4:16, "For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven..." And in Revelation 22:20 we read, "Surely I am coming soon." And in this same verse in the Bible, the Christians respond by saying to Jesus, "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus." We are all awaiting and anticipating not only the birth of Jesus but also the return of the future Messiah, Jesus.

One might think I'm being a little too picky here, but I really don't think so. For Christians, not only is Christmas the most wonderful time of the year, but also Advent as we await the future Messiah. So, is Christmas the most wonderful time of the year? Yes, as long as we understand that the Christmas season is not only a time for celebrating Jesus' birth but also a time for anticipating the return of Jesus the Messiah.

Here's a thought. On Christmas Eve as we light our candles and sing "Silent Night", hold your candles high (be safe) and look heavenward and from your hearts say, "Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!"

DECEMBER 2022

December 4 th -- The 'Useful' Scriptures	(2 Timothy 3:14-17)
December 11 th -- Except...	(John 14:1-14)
December 18 th -- Christmas...All Year Long	(Matthew 3:1-10)
December 24 th -- When Christmas Is Disappointing	(Matthew 2:1-12)