

The Sound OF CHRISTMAS

by Bob Meisner

I love hearing the sounds of Christmas; from children's laughter to the sounds of sleigh bells or the music in the department store acknowledging the birth of the newborn King – Jesus! How can you not but smile.

I understand there's a lot of controversy that seems to surround this festive season. Those who want nothing to do with the pagan roots associated with its traditions too those who fight to get Christ "back into" Christmas. There are countless reasons on all sides where I could find myself in agreement to disagree.

My purpose is to help us find a point of worship during this season I chose to call Christmas.

God is a Holy God. All that is associated with Him is to be Holy. Holiness is best understood when we define its opposite. The opposite of holy is common. When something is holy, it is held in esteem. It is precious. Its preciousness gives us a sense of value and awe. When something is common it is handled with little or no consideration. It is not held in the high esteem it deserves.

The angels' joyful announcement was worthy of a Heavenly King. But how do we celebrate His Majesty?

The world's presentation of Christmas shuts Him out. Jesus, our Lord - the long-awaited Messiah - simply doesn't fit today's vision of pluralism. That's why signs and symbols of any celebration bearing His Name have been censored from schools and public places.

The King, whose birth we celebrate, stood in Jerusalem watching a world too blinded by human wants and ambitions to see the Savior in their midst. "If you had known," He said with unspeakable sorrow, "the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes." Luke 19:42

Many of us who once had incredible worship experiences now find that worship has become common. Worship is an act of intimacy and love. God created us for the one divine purpose of being a part of a loving family with whom He would have an eternal relationship. He is looking for people who want intimacy with Him. You don't have to find Him. He'll find you! That's why He came.

When Jesus was asked, "What is the greatest commandment?" He replied without hesitation, "And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength." The second is equally important: "Love your neighbor as yourself." No other commandment is greater than these." Mark 12:30,31 NLT. There is nothing more important than being in love with God and with people.



a warm emotion. If there is action without value and esteem, it is just a kind action. But where there is action motivated by value and esteem, you have the agape-love of God.

There is nothing more important than being in love with God and with people.

The word for love used in this verse comes from the Greek word "agape." Agape is a type of love that is determined by the value, the esteem and the preciousness that it holds for the object being loved. If we interpreted this literally in John 3:16 it would say,

For God had so much value for the world, we were so precious to Him, He held us in such esteem that He gave His only son... God's love, value, esteem and sense of preciousness for mankind prompted Him to take action.

It is a feeling of value and esteem that prompts action. If it doesn't prompt associated actions it is not love. It is just

This Christmas find your way back to a place of passionate intimacy with God and for people. Don't allow the customs and cares of this world to distract you. Simply admitting to ourselves that we have lost our passion for God is an incredibly bold first step. That one acknowledgement is key to opening the door to start a wonderful journey back to a lifestyle of worship... and into the heart of God.

This season as the sights and sounds of Christmas surround you, enjoy being the worshipper you are.

Merry Christmas,

Bob

Merry Christmas
FROM ALL OF US AT IT'S A NEW DAY

NEW DAY FAMILY NEWS

Our Customer Care staff keeps a record of all of your encouraging comments – and they regularly praise God together as they take orders and celebrate God’s faithfulness – we are family together!

This is a recent daily account:

- A lady called me just the other day, and said that quite a while ago Audrey had talked about fame; taking it out of your heart so that God can work deeper within you. She told me “it was exactly what she needed to hear.”
- Another lady by the name of Jenny called; she said that she has trouble with believing in healing in her family. She has been through the same thing that Bob and Audrey had gone through, and it gave her so much more hope after hearing the testimony.
- I just received a phone call from Jean, They will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary this weekend, and they are both wonderfully surprised that they have made it this far. She also said that they were strongly impacted by Audrey and Bob’s marriage testimony, and they feel that their marriage has been successfully restored and fully recovered. Now Jean’s prayer for her family and marriage is that they will learn to THRIVE and not just survive!
- Carol wanted to thank you for all of your help and for “opening up about yourselves on air.” She hopes that you can come back to Victoria, BC, again soon. She would also appreciate it if you could pray for her family, especially for her teenage granddaughter, as she reunites with her daddy.
- Barbara says “It is so wonderful to see married couples working alongside each other”. Seeing married couples who are still so in love with each other is a seldom sight these days.” and she sends her love to you, Willard and Betty and Bob and Audrey.

International Impact

The Internet is an opportunity that allows *It's A New Day* to influence precious people all around the world! Bob and Audrey speak in several countries every year declaring God’s redeeming power for marriages. This month, we wanted to share with you a letter from Brazil: (You can hear the accent in the words! Our marriage story is distributed through DVD in Portuguese throughout most of Brazil on an ongoing basis. Thank you Jesus!)

Hello Bob! Hello Audrey!

I’m Fabrício, from Marília (BRASIL), and my wife and I watched the testimony of you yesterday.

We had a lot of feelings during the presentation of how God worked in your life, and I mean that the extravagant grace of God is the most impact of everything we heard.

But a strong feeling came over me, and I mean that the most impressive is that I felt like Robert Jr. Yes, as God accepted me with his grace and love, even the fruit of sin and disobedience, I felt like Robert Jr.!

I feel accepted, under the treatment of God, loved by God! And I’m sure that your children, especially Roberto Jr., feel as loved as I!

Glory to the Lord for the life of you and I want you to know that in Christ Jesus, you are very important to us!

Congratulations and prosperity to you in the rock, our beloved JESUS!

BECAUSE YOU GIVE, LIVES ARE CHANGED!

As we write this, we are overwhelmed with gratitude to you. We couldn’t have done this without you! For your generosity to help us reach so many with God’s Truth; for your sensitivity to hear God’s voice in tangibly investing in this ministry; for loving people and desiring God’s best life for everyone who will hear the invitation. You have loved, and therefore you have given. We are extremely grateful.

As friends and family of this ministry, we want you to be the first to know that beginning in January 2010 we will be operating debt-free. This has been a dream of our hearts – and we can now expand our coverage to reach beyond Canada – and touch nations. We have a compelling vision to reach one billion people in the next fifteen years. As a Canadian ministry, we embrace our call to bring healing to the nations. Together with you, we believe we have only begun to live the plans that God has for us.

The media and Internet technology has the ability to reach and influence limitless numbers of people in any country on the

globe. With the resources of New Day Ministries we will continue to produce high-quality, deep teaching – designed and anointed to get people free and find the solutions they’ve been longing for. That’s why you love the show – and that’s why the program is destined to grow in popularity and coverage. People don’t want to talk about fluff – they want answers!

We are ecstatic about this coming year. God has filled our hearts with vision, energy and countless ideas. Our days are filled up just getting prepared for the growth that we foresee in the next several months. As our friends and family, we know that you will be cheering us on. Let’s move forward in fighting for families all over the world! You are an intricate part of this New Day Family and we can’t wait to see the kingdom come and God’s Will be done!

Thank you again and again for your financial support throughout this past year. Please pray for us as we make important decisions to expand. And also, please remember that we love you, we are praying

for you, and we firmly believe that your best days are ahead.

Now may the God of peace make you holy in every way, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ comes again. God will make this happen, for he who calls you is faithful. (1 Thessalonians 5:23-24)

IT’S NOT TOO LATE TO GIVE

To ensure your gift is included on your 2009 Charitable Receipt, your donation must be postmarked no later than **December 31, 2009**. You can also call in your gift with your credit card information to **1-800-556-3533** provided you call by midnight on **December 31, 2009**.

it's a new
day

