

Understanding The Cause of our CHRISTMAS Joy – GOD’s Love!

A CHRISTMAS Hymn, “GOD Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen!”¹

GOD rest ye merry, gentlemen - Let nothing you dismay!
Remember, CHRIST, our Saviour - Was born on Christmas Day
To save us all from Satan's power - When we were gone astray!
O tidings of comfort and joy, Comfort and joy - O tidings of comfort and joy!

A Sequence of Holy Scripture²

PSALM 23:1

The LORD is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

EZEKIEL 37:27

My Tabernacle also shall be with them: yea, I will be their GOD, and they shall be My people.

ISAIAH 7:14

Therefore The Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a Virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel.

I JOHN 4:8b

for GOD is love.

JOHN 1:1

In the beginning was The Word, and The Word was with GOD, and The Word was GOD.

LUKE 1:30-31

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with GOD.

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His Name JESUS

JOHN 3:16

For GOD so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Understanding CHRISTMAS Through GOD’s Love

The Birth of JESUS was no afterthought of GOD after sin entered the world. Blessed John Duns Scotus (1266–1308) said that CHRIST came into the world in The Incarnation because of GOD’s Love.³ GOD dwells with man because of His Love for us! Saint Anselm of Canterbury (1033–1109) said that CHRIST, being fully GOD and fully Man but without sin, is alone able to pay for our debts of sin.⁴ GOD redeemed man in The Passiontide because of His Love for us!

The Word became Flesh because GOD desires to be in Holy Communion with us. JESUS CHRIST voluntarily offered Himself for our sins at The Cross to repair our separation with GOD. CHRIST’s Victory at The Empty Tomb, now Glorified at the right hand of GOD, brings us New Life. CHRISTMAS makes EASTER possible. Thus may we be restored to GOD - and our fellow man - now and forever! This is why we rejoice in GOD’s Love!

¹ Hymn, “GOD Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen!” Traditional Christmas hymn from 15th Century. Author unknown. Published in "Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern" by William B. Sandys. 1833. Retrieved 12/22/2014. http://www.carols.org.uk/god_rest_ye_merry_gentlemen.htm.

² All Scripture is in The King James Version Bible.

³ “A Promise of GOD’s Grace.” Fr. Tom Washburn, OFM. 4/03/2008. Scotus: Retrieving a Medieval Thinker for a Post-Modern World.” Friar Dominic Monti, OFM. Retrieved 12/22/2014.

<http://afriarslife.blogspot.com/2008/04/promise-of-gods-grace.html>

⁴ “Anselm of Canterbury.” Theopedia.com. “Cur DEUS Homo - Why did GOD become Man?” Retrieved 12/22/2014. http://www.theopedia.com/Anselm_of_Canterbury