

EXTREME LOVE

Introduction:

A. God's love

1. God's plan to save mankind was well-thought out before the c_____ of the world (1 Pet 1:19,20)
2. The salvation plan shows the e_____ love that God has for us in Jesus Christ.

B. Meditating on this extreme love will help make our Christmas celebration both accurate and meaningful.

The Word e_____ Himself to become human (Jn 1:1,14; Phil 2:6,7)

A. The Word (Jn 1:1,14)

1. Prior to becoming human, Jesus existed as G_____ (Jn 1:1)
2. The Word did not cease to be God when He became human
 - a. Jesus claimed to be the I _____ who appeared to Moses in the burning bush (Jn 8:58)
 - b. Jesus is fully God and fully human but one being and one in being with the Father and the Holy Spirit.
 - 1) We cannot understand h_____ He is.
 - 2) We can only a_____ who He is.

B. Phil 2:6,7 states that although He existed as God, He emptied Himself in order to be completely d_____ on the Father while in the flesh.

1. He emptied Himself of k_____ (He had to learn to talk and walk and read)
2. He emptied Himself of w_____ (Lk 2:40; Heb 5:8)
3. He emptied Himself of a_____
 - a. He submitted Himself to His p_____ (Lk 2:51)
 - b. He submitted Himself to g_____ (Jn 19:11)
 - c. He submitted Himself to the F_____ (Jn 5:19)
 - d. He submitted Himself to the limitations of the human body (He got t_____ and had to rest – Matt 8:24; Jn 4:6)

C. This act of emptying Himself demonstrated extreme love for you and me.

The Word s_____ Himself of earthly pleasures (2 Cor 8:9)

- A. 2 Cor 8:9 states that although He was rich, He became poor for our sakes so that through His poverty we might become rich.
1. The Jews were looking for a n_____ Messiah and most certainly would be born in a noble place.
 2. The Word entered the w_____ of a virgin (Lk 1:26,27)
 - a. Mary was accused of i_____ by her fiancé Joseph (Matt 1:18,19).
 - b. Mary most certainly told the story that she became pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit with the S_____ of G_____ (Lk 1:35)
 - c. The story that was circulated (even when Jesus was ministering publicly) was that Jesus was born out of f_____ (Jn 8:41,48)
 3. The Word entered the w_____ in a feeding trough (Lk 2:7)
 4. Jesus grew up in a place that Judean Jews considered despicable, Nazareth.
 - a. Nathaniel did not believe that anything g_____ could come out of Nazareth (Jn 1:46)
 - b. Jesus was called a Nazarene (Matt 2:23) – this was a der_____ term.
 5. When Jesus entered His public ministry, he gave up His family, His business, and became h_____ (Matt 8:20).
- B. The God man could have come in comfort but He wanted to show His extreme love for you and me by giving up earthly pleasures.

The Word willingly suffered our penalty (Matt 20:28)

- A. Matt 20:28 – Jesus willingly suffered physically to become the r_____ payment that would free us from sin.
1. He was s_____ on
 2. He was b_____ with fists
 3. His back was torn open by the continuous whipping of the Roman scourge
 4. He was m_____ and taunted
 5. He was c_____

- B. He willingly suffered s_____ to bring us into a good and right relationship with God.
1. 2 Cor 5:21 - Jesus's body was so filled with the sins of the world that He became s_____
 2. Matt 27:46 – this sin-bearing s_____ Him from God the Father.
- C. The Word knew what He would have to go through before the foundation of the world and volunteered. This is extreme love.

Conclusion:

This Christmas season celebrate the extreme love of Christ for you. No one can match it. No one can comprehend it. But by faith anyone can accept it.