



John Newlin Ministries, Inc.

- realizing the power of a life in Christ-

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CHRISTMAS IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER HOLIDAY

Why? Because it celebrates the birth of the savior of the world. It celebrates one of the Trinity, the Son of God, actually coming to earth in human form. It celebrates God beginning a very specific work to reveal more of himself and to reconcile lost humanity to himself.

That is Christmas. All this flash and gifting and parades and television specials – all of this is just glitter. Surely it is fun, but the real focus of any believer, and of anyone hoping to soon go with Jesus when he returns, has to be the celebration of Jesus and his birth.

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of his government and peace
there will be no end. - Isaiah 9:6-7a*

*“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
¹⁰ your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. - Matthew 6:9-10*

Two thousand years ago the wonder of all wonders, the miracle of all miracles, occurred. God came to earth in human form. His Son, Jesus, was born both human and God, with a human mother and God the Father himself as his father.

But Jesus is not a baby anymore, as he emphasized to me many years ago while I was sitting in a Christmas service celebrating his birth. No. He is currently sitting on a throne beside his father. He is preparing to return. The mansions, the houses in heaven for his believers are ready. It is time. We are living in that time.

Keep Your Eyes on Jesus!

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The first Christmas was the startling event when God signaled he was no longer content to let humanity wander around lost and under the control of the evil one. Through the life of Jesus and his ultimate sacrifice on the cross and his resurrection, humanity was reconciled to God. Now it is up to each person to realize who Jesus is and what he has done for us, and to ask Jesus to be the Lord of his life. Actually the Father himself draws persons to Jesus. That is the only way they can come, as Jesus told us. But people do have to recognize when they are being led and they do have to take action. They can't just sit idly by.

Christmas. The Lord's coming in flesh into the world and beginning the reconciliation process. The beginning of hope for humanity. All praise be to Jesus and to his Father who gave us this chance at a wonderful, true eternal life!

AWKWARD TIME WE ARE LIVING IN

Yes it is. We believers know it is the time of the imminent return of Jesus to collect his believers. At the same time we have seen some positive signs on earth in a few elections of governments, with persons being successful in standing against the wildly ungodly beliefs of some far left governments working toward the one world government. That has happened in the US. It happened not long ago in Argentina. There seem to be positive signs of such a trend moving forward in Germany and maybe Sweden and elsewhere.

But the world as a whole heads down the path to the one world government the antichrist will lead. So far he has not been revealed, and we do know what is holding him back, It is the body of true believers, the Holy Spirit acting through them, that keeps him from surfacing full force even though much is being done already to further his and the evil one's plans. Once Jesus comes to take his believers away with him and we all get those wonderful new bodies, the world will be open for him to follow full throttle his plans. He will lead the signing/confirmation of an agreement with the Jews, with Israel, that they actually believe and thus go forward living in unwalled villages. That will be the beginning of the Tribulation, and the terrible seven years will commence.

But back to the beginning. It is an awkward time in our society isn't it. There seems almost to be a moment of reprieve, of taking a pause with the victory in the presidential race by the conservative/middle of the road side that is aligned with traditional values and beliefs. That is but temporary. How things go forward in specific detail I do not know, beyond what I understand about the Lord's return and the Tribulation period, but I do know we are in that time of his return. It is all playing out and most people on earth still are in the dark. Thankfully, there will be opportunity for them to come to Jesus during the terrible Tribulation period; that is if they can stay alive then, not take the mark, and have the time to do so. Many Tribulation saints are seen in Heaven in the book of Revelation.

Don't let your guard down. Live as Jesus said in Luke 21:36. Watch! Stay in the right relationship with Jesus. And listen for his coming.

What are the actual indications of that moment?

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The Lord will give a command, the angel will shout, and there will be a trumpet blast, likely a shofar I think. And then that instantaneous collection of the saints will be underway.

Just be alert and ready. You won't miss that sound...or Jesus' command or the angel's shout.

CHRISTMAS GIFT - CLEMENTINES

[This short article presents a true Christmas miracle in my life many years ago. I have published it every year since and I continue to do so here. It is also included on our blog if you ever want to look it up. Just search for Christmas in the search block there.]

God loves us. He really, really does. That's a key part of the Christmas message. Why else would He ever have sent His son here to go through what he went through? And why else would Jesus ever have willingly gone to the cross?

I was reminded of that this past weekend in a way only God can arrange. Sunday afternoon a friend was coming to visit us at home. Late in the afternoon the doorbell rang, and I opened the door. There stood our friend, holding out a box of clementines. For those of you who do not know, clementines are small citrus fruit, like small oranges, and they seem to make an appearance in grocery stores about this time of year. They come in small but clearly distinct boxes.

Our friend handed me this box of clementines. "God told me to get this for you," she said. And she went on, exclaiming that God was very specific and strong about it. "So I went into a grocery store and I couldn't find them. I thought that I would just get a poinsettia, but well, God said to get clementines." So she stuck with her search, and she found them. Later in the kitchen she spoke with Cathy and asked if clementines were my favorite. Our friend couldn't get over how insistent God had been.

Later I thought more about this. I remembered how as my children grew up we would always get a box of clementines sometime around Christmas. It was a regular feature in our house. The box could always be found sitting somewhere in the kitchen. Everyone liked them. To this day when I see a display of clementines in a store, I want to buy a box.

And I thought some more. Here we are in the ministry involved in our usual activities and praying for guidance from God on key issues, like where and how to proceed in the expensive television ministry, where and what meetings to arrange, whether to begin another regular meeting in southeastern NC, and more. For months, even years, we have been going steadily forward, always fighting and overcoming attacks of the evil one which do come whenever anyone steps out for God. Into the midst of all that God sent an obedient woman friend to bring a box of clementines. Even when I write this the Holy Spirit is so strong in the office I keep stopping and reflecting. Is that love? Yes! And much more. That is God saying - John, even in the midst of all this, I'm still here, and I love you, and look, I even know little things about you, like how you like a box of clementines and what that means to you.

So I've been feeling really warm ever since. God sent me a box of clementines for Christmas. God knows where you are and what you're going through. He knows every hair on your head. Every day, if we'll just look around and take time to see with spiritual eyes, we'll see God directing our paths.

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What a heavenly Father we have!

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TO ALL WHO HELP AND OUR CONTINUING REQUEST FOR SUPPORT AND PRAYER IN REACHING THE WORLD

To all who give to and pray for us and this ministry we thank you. And to all who are reading this, I ask, please continue to help us reach more and more people around the world with the truths of who Jesus is and that he is coming soon – the essential truths of eternal life for all people. You know that through the use of our short videos and using X (formerly Twitter) we are reaching millions all over the world. But this takes money; recently, perhaps because of the poor economy or the general state of turmoil in the world, donations have decreased, and we need your help. Help us reach more and more with the news of who Jesus is and that he is coming soon. That is the very overall objective the Lord gave me directly years ago. Any donation of any size is greatly appreciated. You can give by mail or by going to our website and using the donate button in the menu column which will help you to give using PAYPAL or any credit card. We are so very grateful to all for your donations and for your continuing prayers for us and the ministry.

May you live in the blessings of God always.

Merry Christmas to you all!

John and Cathy

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