

E³ - ECUBED INTERNATIONAL

NEED PRAYER?

Email your prayer requests to:
prayerrequests@ecubedintl.org

We will pray for you right away!



As people are encouraged, their spiritual and physical lives become enriched and they become empowered to do the same thing for someone else.

AUDIENCES SERVED and HOW

SPIRITUAL

Discipleship:

High School & College Students
Single Moms & Widows
Corporate & Global Leaders

Evangelism

Marriage Preparation & Marriage Enrichment:

College Age and 20
Something Single and
Married Adults

Spiritual Reminders

PHYSICAL

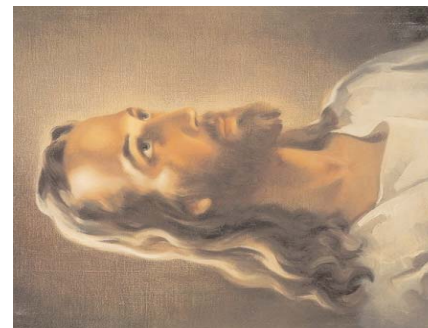
Financial and Material Support For:

People with Special Needs
Single Moms & Widows
Orphans
Unemployed &
Underemployed

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Why do we celebrate
someone's birthday?

(in other words...What difference does Christmas truly make?)



We celebrate each other's birthday out of thankfulness for God putting another person into our lives. We are thankful for the difference that different people make in our lives.

Everyone here celebrates a birthday once a year, but it is a relative small audience that celebrates each of our birthdays. Only a few select people have their birthday's celebrated by the ENTIRE country of the United States.

George Washington, for being a military leader during the American Revolution and being the 1st President of the United States.

Abraham Lincoln, for his presidency and more specifically, leading our divided country toward unity and out of slavery as a means of commerce.

Martin Luther King, for his contribution to our country in the area of civil rights.

In one way or another, our country celebrates these men and others for their contributions towards bringing peace in various areas of our lives. We even celebrate the achievements of certain people by awarding the Nobel Peace Prize.

Let's take a look at what God has to say about peace....

In the Biblical Christmas story of the birth of Jesus Christ, it says that Jesus was:

1) The savior of mankind from their sins

Matthew 1:21 - And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

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Christmas is actually a Latin word which means:

Christ - Savior Mas - comes or "Savior comes"

2) The prince of peace

*Isaiah 9:6 - For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be
called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of
Peace.*

And further on in the Bible it says:

This peace God is talking about is two fold:

1) Peace with God -- through faith in Jesus Christ for the eternal saving
of our souls

*Romans 5:1 - herefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace
with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,*

2) Peace in our heart - to withstand all of the trials and tribulations that
we will face in this life, before we reside with God forever, once we die.

*John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the
world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it
be afraid.*

Some people may wonder what difference it makes that Jesus came to
save us from our sins and give us peace in our hearts to withstand all that
we face in this life.

To these people the Scriptures are clear:

Matthew 16:26 - For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Matthew 10:28 - And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

These verses are unfortunately the bad news of the Gospel.

Because of the BAD news of the Gospel, the GOOD news of the Gospel is SO wonderful as follows:

John 1:10-14 - He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 3:16-17 - For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

For all of these reasons and more is WHY we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the TRUE meaning of Christmas. It is also why we mark our time based upon the date of his birth. To the best of my knowledge, Jesus Christ is the only person from history whose birthday is celebrated by people from around the world.

Is there anyone else who is worthy of such honor?

What difference should Christmas make in our lives today and for eternity?