

Sermon Notes

Miracle Manger - Micah 5:2

December 21, 2025

I. Introduction

God is in the manger. A God who is secretly revealed as love. Captured and compelled by the wonder of the manger... if Christmas cannot ignite in us a love for this Child... then it must be that the glow of the divine mystery has been extinguished in our heart and has died out. Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- remember the most important question of your life...
Luke 9:18-20... *"who do the crowds say I am... disciples said, John the Baptist; some say Elijah, others say one of the prophets... but you, He asked them, who do you say I am..."*
- every single person has to answer that question at one time or another... what if all these miracles are true... moment, message, method... how will you respond to them...
Psa 103:5... *"I wait for the Lord... my soul does wait... in His word I do hope..."*
Matt 13:9-13... *"let anyone who has ears listen... hearing they do not listen and understand..."*
1Cor 1:21... *"pleased God thru foolishness of message to save those who believe..."*
- even if we don't understand... even if we can't understand... but we see that it works... will you believe it... the miracle manger is where our belief begins... pray...
John 10:38... *"even if you don't believe Me... believe the works..."*
Rom 11:33 **MSG**... *"have you ever come on anything quite like this extravagant generosity of God... this deep wisdom... it's way over our heads... never figure it out..."*
1Thess 2:13... *"received Word, welcomed it... works effectively in you who believe..."*

4 days till Christmas. 96 hours. 5,760 minutes. 345,600 seconds.

II. Miracle Manger

- is there anyone here who doesn't have any issues... doesn't face any problems... doesn't have any challenges... if so, you're dismissed... if not, could this Child be the answer...
Isa 7:14... *"the Lord will give you a sign... virgin shall conceive and bear a Son..."*
Micah 5:2... *"from you Bethlehem... shall come forth One who is to be a ruler..."*
Matt 11:3... *"are You the One to come or should we expect someone else..."*
John 4:25-26... *"when the Messiah comes, He will explain everything... I am He..."*
- who is this Child... could He be the One... what if He is...
Matt 1:21... *"she'll give birth to a Son... He will save His people from their sins..."*
sozo... *keep safe from danger; make well, heal, restore to health, deliver, rescue, save...*
John 1:1-14... *"in the beginning was the Word... Word was with God... Word was God... in Him was life... to all who did receive Him... He gave the right to become children of God... to those who believe... the Word became flesh and made His home among us... full of grace and truth..."*
zoe... *fullness of life that belongs to God; real, genuine, active, vigorous; even in this world...*
- could He be the One who gives life... sets us free from sin and death... freely gives His own inheritance... guarantees all the promises of the bible... who do you say He is...
John 10:10... *"I have come so you may have life... and have it more abundantly..."*
Rom 8:2... *"the law of life in Christ has set you free from the law of sin and death..."*
Rom 8:17-32... *"we are... joint heirs with Christ... been freely given all things..."*
2Cor 1:20... *"every one of God's promises is yes and amen in Christ..."*

- the miracle that the manger reveals is that this Child is the One... He is the God of the universe... He is the answer to your needs... He is the hope of all mankind...
Luke 2:11... *"there is born to you this day... a Savior, who is Christ the Lord..."*
- the reason for the season is not family... not gifts... not church... not football... not even those chocolate cookies rolled in powdered sugar... real reason is the miracle manger...
Matt 11:1-15... *"are You the One we've been expecting, or should we keep looking... go and report what you've heard and seen... blind see, lame walk, deaf hear, lepers cleansed, dead raised... blessed is the one who isn't offended by Me... is this what you were expecting... let anyone with ears listen..."*
skandalizo... *stumbling block; distrust and desert; cause to fall away; judge unfavorably; displease...*
Mark 14:60-62... *"are you the Messiah... I am..."*
Luke 22:66-70... *"are you the Messiah... if I tell you, you will not believe..."*
- won't be able to see the other miracles... the miracle moments, messages, method... until you believe good news about the miracle manger... that's what Christmas is all about...
John 6:35-58... *"anyone who believes has eternal life..."*
Acts 13:38-39 **AMP**... *"everyone who believes in Him is freed from all guilt..."*
Rom 5:1-9... *"we have been declared righteous... saved thru Him from wrath..."*
Rom 8:1... *"therefore, no condemnation now exists for those in Christ..."*
Rom 10:11... *"everyone who believes in Him will never be put to shame..."*
Eph 1:7... *"redemption thru His blood... forgiveness of sins... according to grace..."*
- those gifts are waiting for you at the manger... but they mean nothing until you answer the question... *who do you say He is*... that choice is entirely up to you...

You must make your choice. Jesus was either Lord, liar, or lunatic. CS Lewis
- only two reasons why people don't experience the miracle manger... ignorance and a hard heart... lack of knowledge and rejected knowledge are the only things that stand in the way of you experiencing abundant life on earth and an eternity in heaven...
Hosea 4:6... *"my people destroyed for lack of knowledge... and rejected knowledge..."*
Eph 4:18... *"excluded from life... because of ignorance and hardness of heart..."*
- miracle manger is sometimes hidden behind bows, gifts, ornaments... food, football, family... hidden behind PC of *Happy Holidays*... never hidden from those who seek it...
2Sam 22:3... *"my God where I seek refuge... my shield, my salvation, my stronghold, my Savior..."*
1Chron 16:10... *"let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice..."*
1Chron 28:9... *"if you seek Him... He will be found by you..."*
Ezra 8:22... *"the hand of our God is gracious to all who seek Him..."*
Psa 34:14... *"those who seek the Lord will not lack any good thing..."*
Psa 119:2... *"blessed are those who seek Him with all their heart..."*
Acts 17:22-34... *"He Himself gives everyone life and breath and all things... He did this so they might seek Him... perhaps reach out and find Him... though He is not far from us..."*
Heb 11:6... *"the one who draws near must believe He exists... He rewards those who seek Him..."*
- the good news is for all people... but you must choose to unwrap it... pray...
Luke 2:8-20... *"good news of great joy for all people... today, a Savior has been born for you... they reported the message and returned glorifying and praising God..."*
Phil 3:1-11... *"everything a loss so I may gain Christ... and know Him and His power..."*

I believe in the miracle of the manger. I believe Jesus is God in the flesh. I have known about Him, but I want to know Him. I want to experience the miracle of Christmas. I want abundant life here on earth and eternal life in heaven. I believe and receive Jesus as my Savior. Thank you for taking away my sin and making me righteous and holy. Help me know the joy of walking with your Spirit daily.