

Keeping Christmas In Our Hearts All Year Long



Read Luke 2:8-20





Christmas opened Heaven to those on earth.

Adam and Eve were shut out of the Garden
and closed off from the presence of God.
(Genesis 3:23-24)

Who were the first people told that Heaven
was being opened? (Luke 2:8-9) What does
this signify?

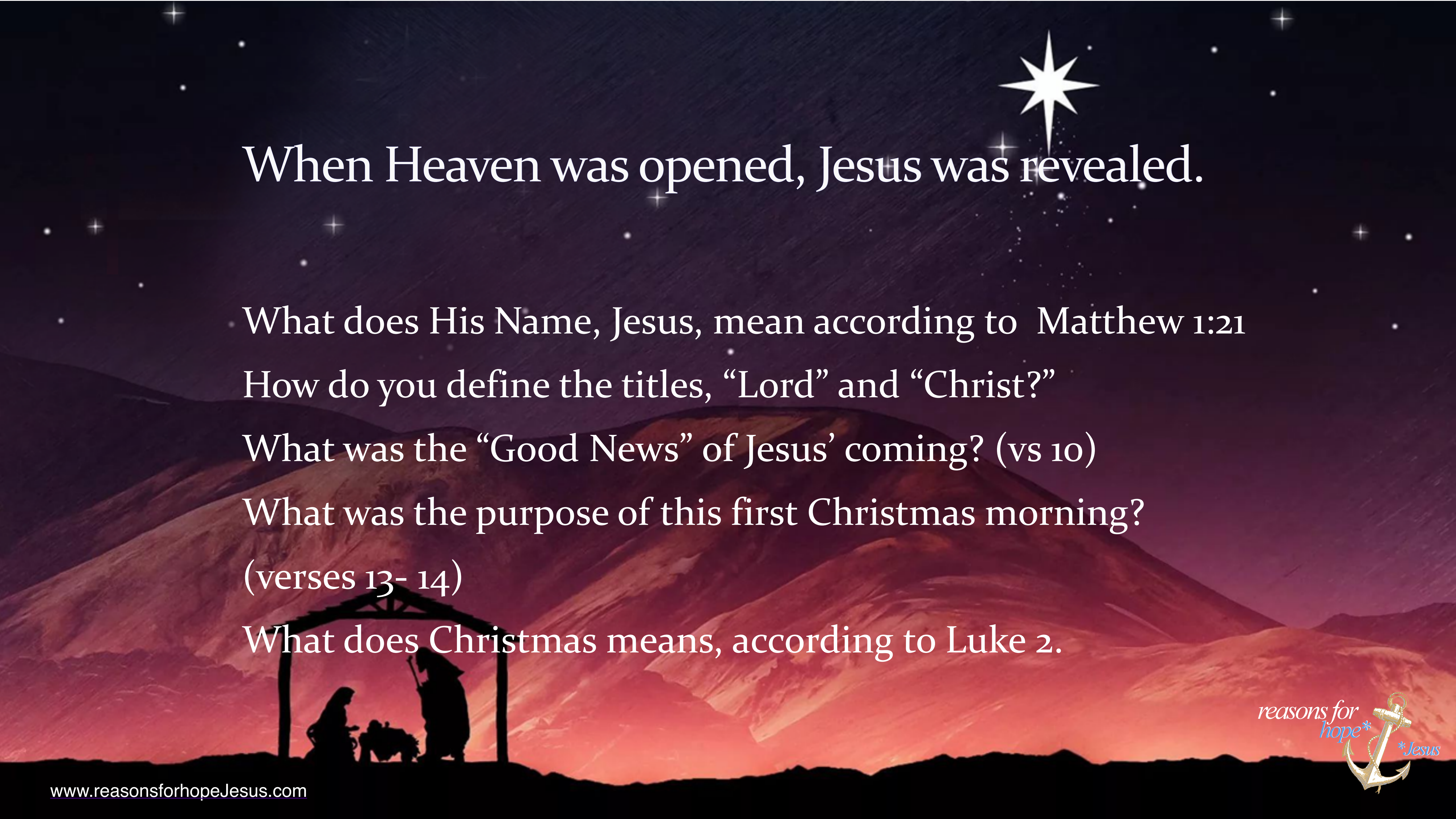


Christmas opened Heaven to those on earth.

To whom has Heaven been opened, according to verse 10? See Revelation 21:25-27; 22:17.

Who is the “ladder” that spans the gulf between Heaven and Earth, between God and man? (Genesis 28:10-12, John 1:47-51, and John 14:6)





When Heaven was opened, Jesus was revealed.

What does His Name, Jesus, mean according to Matthew 1:21

How do you define the titles, “Lord” and “Christ?”

What was the “Good News” of Jesus’ coming? (vs 10)

What was the purpose of this first Christmas morning?

(verses 13- 14)

What does Christmas means, according to Luke 2.

What is the miracle of Christmas?

It brought an awareness of God's gifts
(vss 13-15, cf vs 17)

It generated an attitude of expectancy:

How did the shepherds respond? vs 16

Why did they respond by leaving to seek the baby?

How was the promise of verse 12 fulfilled in vs 16?

How does this also confirm Jer 29:13? Prov 8:17?

What are we to do with the miracle of Christmas?

Tell the message of good news. Tell it personally.

What phrase in vs 17 tells this encounter with Jesus was personal?

After seeing Jesus, what did the shepherds do? vs 17

And the people who heard? vs 18

How does the shepherd's experience relate to 1 John 1:1- 3? John 1:1-2, 14? Acts 4:20?

Why is it important to have a personal, firsthand experience with Jesus?



What are we to do with the miracle of Christmas?
Tell the message of good news.

Tell it personally:

Of those amazed by the shepherds' testimony
(vs 18), how many went to see Jesus?

Why do some hear, but not respond? Poor
witness? Or something else?



What are we to do with the miracle of Christmas?
Tell the message of good news.

Tell it patiently:

How many people do you know who celebrate Christmas without “seeing” Jesus?

How is this also addressed in Acts 28:23-31? 2 Timothy 4:2-5? Hebrews 6:12; 10:36?

When you share Jesus, but get no positive response, how are you encouraged by Acts 28:23-31? 2 Timothy 4:16-17? Hebrews 12:1-3? Galatians 6:9?

What are we to do with the miracle of Christmas?
Tell the message of good news.

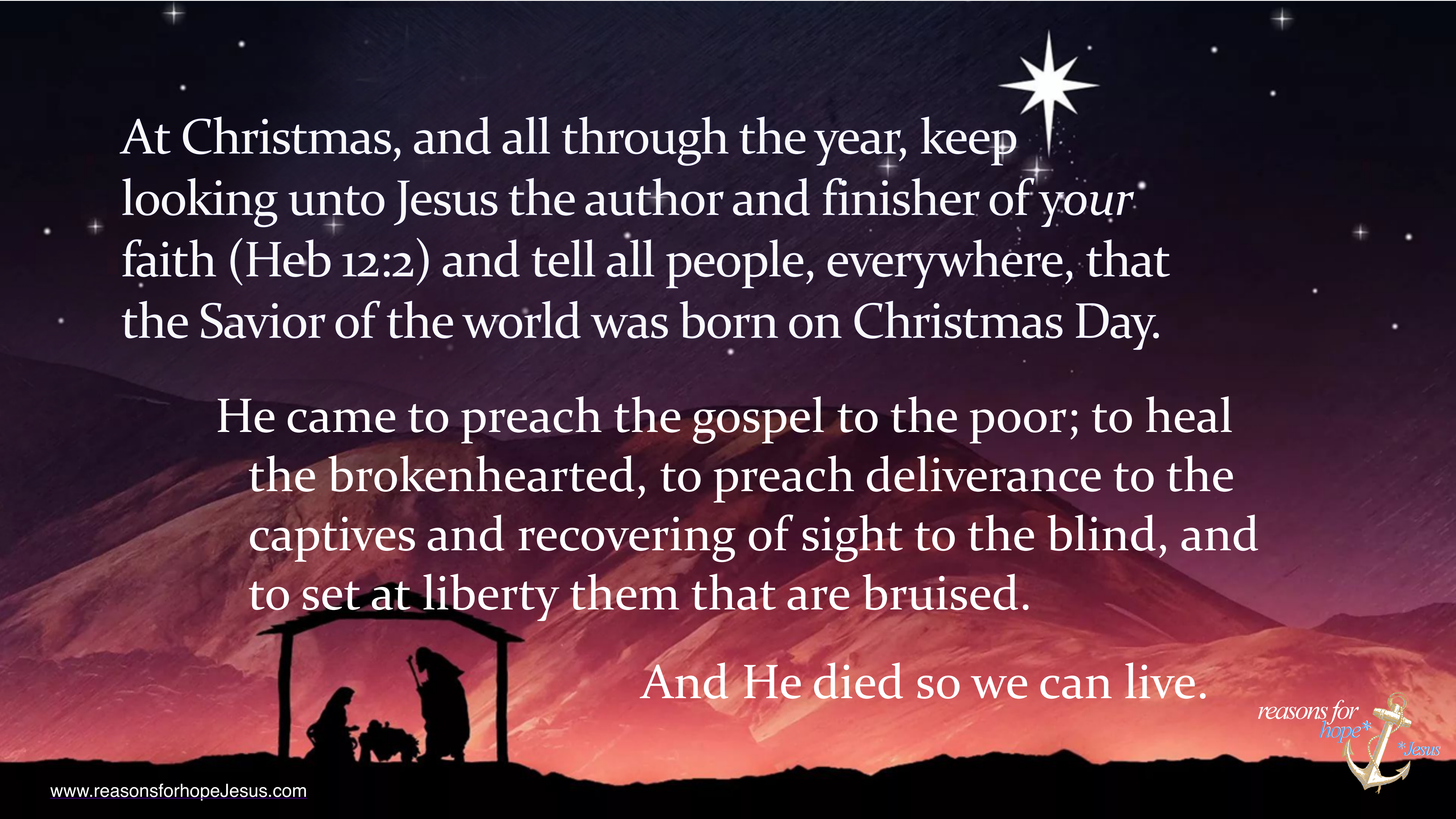
Tell it with praise:

How were the lives and attitudes of the shepherds changed after
seeing Jesus? (vs 20)

How can you keep Christmas in your heart year 'round?

Is there any part of the Christmas story that you doubt? If so, what is
it, and why?

How can we respond in faith like the shepherd's did? (vs 20)

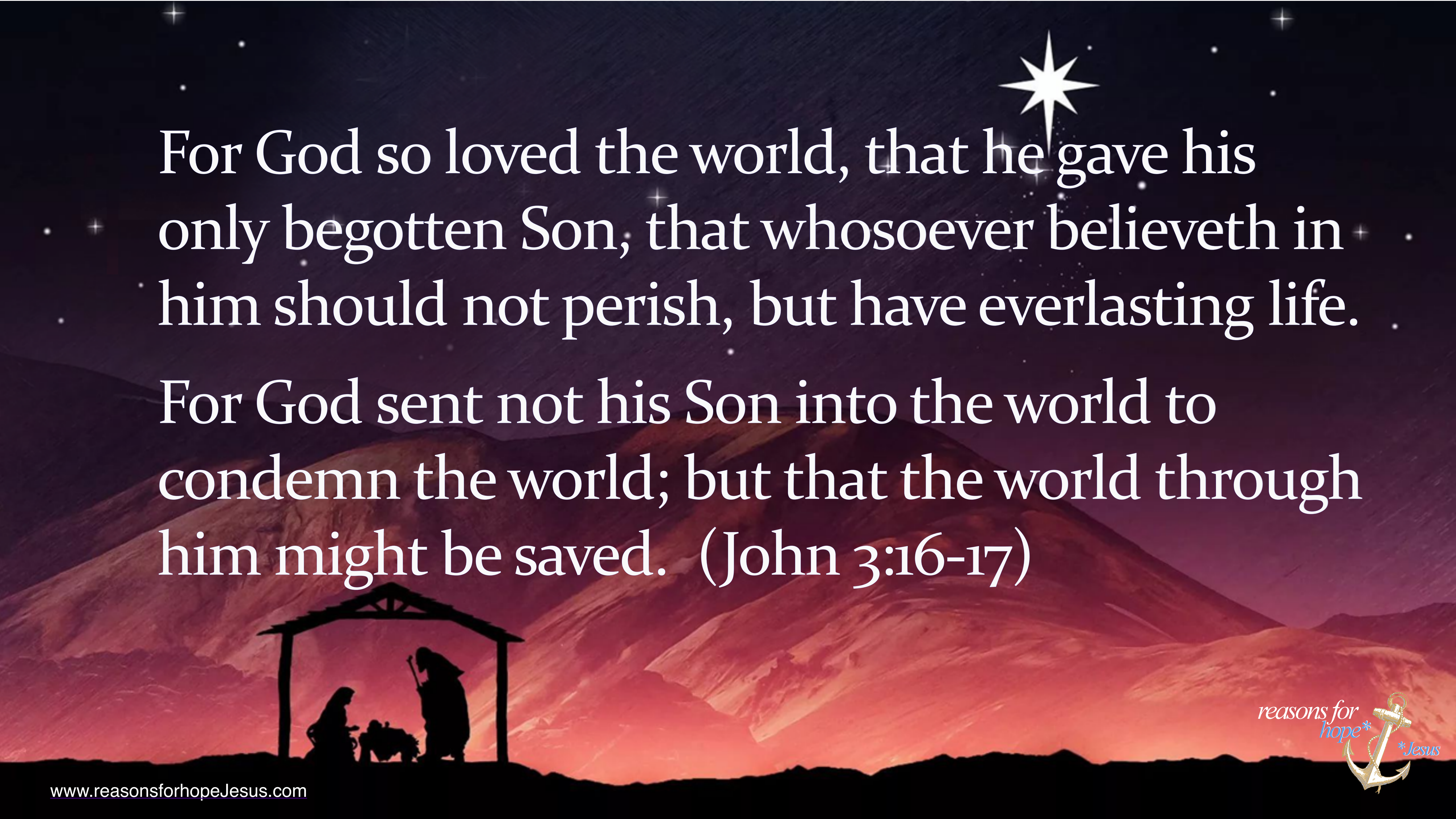


At Christmas, and all through the year, keep looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *your* faith (Heb 12:2) and tell all people, everywhere, that the Savior of the world was born on Christmas Day.

He came to preach the gospel to the poor; to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, and to set at liberty them that are bruised.

And He died so we can live.



The background of the image is a dark, starry night sky. A large, bright, multi-pointed star is positioned in the upper right quadrant. Below the sky, there are silhouettes of rolling hills or mountains. In the lower left foreground, there is a silhouette of a nativity scene, showing a manger with a baby, a woman kneeling, and a man standing. The text is overlaid on the sky and hills.

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.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (John 3:16-17)

So How Do we Keep Christmas in Our Hearts?

Col 4:2-5 Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; meanwhile praying also for us [in addition to ourselves], that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. Walk in wisdom toward those *who are* outside, redeeming the time.

So How Do we Keep Christmas in Our Hearts?

PONDER: the miracle of the incarnation.

PRAISE: God for the gift of His Son to be our Redeemer.

PROCLAIM: the gift of salvation in the Lord Jesus Christ.



PONDER,
PRAISE, and
PROCLAIM everyday
and you will keep Christmas in
your heart all year long.

The True Meaning of Christmas

The Sacrifice Began

Watch this song video and be inspired by God's amazing grace.

<https://reasonsforhopejesus.com/how-many-kings/>

