

Bible/College Class Notes – Christmas 2023

The Joy of Knowing Christ as Our Saviour.

We read about the promise of the Saviour, Who came, died, rose again, and ascended.

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and He shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9v6.

Joy is a Christian experience of the soul: a ‘Fruit of the Spirit’, Galatians 5v22. Read the set readings and note who had this joy – Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, Elisabeth, Zacharias, the Wise Men, the Apostles, and all the faithful followers who witnessed the Lord’s Crucifixion, His Resurrection and Ascension. Even Christ, anticipating His death to save sinners, had joy in His heart. Hebrews 12v2. So too must all who love the Lord Jesus as Saviour – the peace experienced over sin forgiven fills their soul with joy. **May you have this experience of joy in your soul.**

A Selection of Lovely Advent Hymns: (Look them up in our Church hymn book)

- 220 Hark! The glad sound the Saviour comes, The Saviour promised long.
- 229 Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the new-born King!
- 222 Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o’er all the earth.
- 227 O, Come all ye faithful, Joyful, and triumphant.
- 230 Thou! Who wast rich beyond all splendour, All for love’s sake becomest poor.

A Selection of Lovely Easter Hymns: (Look them up in our Church hymn book)

- 246 ‘Man of Sorrows’, What a name for the Son of God who came!
- 243 When I survey the wondrous Cross, on which the Prince of Glory died.
- 254 My song is love unknown, my Saviour’s love to me.
- 260 Give me a sight, O Saviour of Thy wondrous love to me.
- 268 ‘Christ the Lord is risen today!’ Sons of men and angels say.
- 278 Jesus lives! Thy terrors now can no longer, Death appal us.

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

Bible Readings for the Next Two Weeks - December 17th and 24th 2023

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Week 1 – A Saviour Promised, and the Wonderful Joy of that Promise Fulfilled.

Long before the Lord Jesus was born, the Old Testament prophets spoke of His coming. **Micah 5v2** tells us He would be born in Bethlehem. **Isaiah 7v14** tells us He would be born of a virgin. **Isaiah 9v6** informs us of His wonderful names, and in **Isaiah 40**, God’s people were told how to prepare for His coming. In the New Testament, The Gospels record details of His virgin birth, the faithfulness and joy of Mary and Joseph, of those who looked faithfully for His appearing, and how they all worshipped Him with joy in their hearts. They all, (including Mary), joyfully acknowledged that He was **Emmanuel, ‘God with us’**, the promised Saviour of lost sinners. Do you have the joy of personally knowing The Saviour, that your sins are forgiven bringing you eternal peace and reconciliation with God, and a place in Heaven for eternity?

Day	Bible Reading for Dec 17 th – 23 th	Tick When Read
Sunday	Isaiah 9v1-7, Micah 5v2 (Prophecy – Christ is coming)	
Monday	Isaiah 40v1-18 (Preparing for His coming)	
Tuesday	Matthew 1v17-25, Isaiah 7v14 (Joseph told)	
Wednesday	Luke 1v26-38 (Mary told of Christ’s birth)	
Thursday	Luke 1v39-56 (John the Baptist, ‘Behold the Lamb’)	
Friday	Luke 1v57-80 (Elizabeth and Zachariah rejoice)	
Saturday	Luke 2v1-20 (The Shepherds worship with joy)	

Week 2 – More of the Wonderful Joy of the Promised Saviour Fulfilled.

The Wise Men worship Christ as a child. Christ is preserved from Herod. **Matthew 2**. At about 30 years of age, Christ begins His 3-year ministry, anticipating the ‘Joy set before Him to die to save sinners’, (**Hebrews 12 v2**). We note some significant events in Christ’s sinless life - His intercessory prayer to The Father for His Elect People, (**John 17**), His substitutionary death on Calvary, (**Matthew 27**), His resurrection on the 3rd day, (**Matthew 28**), His ascension into Heaven, (**Acts 71v1-4**), where He now intercedes for His People at the Throne of Grace, (**Romans 8v26-34**), and the Promise of His Return in Judgement at the end of time, (**2 Peter 2v9**). Believers, who have repented, knowing that their sins are forgiven, have great joy and peace with God, and will experience Heaven’s eternal joy.

Day	Bible Reading for Dec 24 th – Dec 30 th	Tick When Read
Sunday	Matthew 2v1-23 (The Wise Men worship the King)	
Monday	John 17v1-28 (Christ’s intercessory prayer for His People)	
Tuesday	Luke 23v33-47 Hebrews 12v2 (Christ on Calvary)	
Wednesday	Matthew 27v35-51 (Christ dying on Calvary)	
Thursday	Matthew 28v1-10 (Christ’s victorious resurrection)	
Friday	Matthew 28v18-20, Acts 2v38-47 (Gospel Preached)	
Saturday	Acts 1v1-14 (Christ’s Ascension into Heaven) Hebrews 9v26-28 (Christ’s Return in Judgement)	

The Apostle Paul wrote, *‘Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.’* Hebrews 12v2.