

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, videos have been recently produced to cover the following topics:

- Israel—Fulfilling Bible Prophecies
- Paid Ministries—should churches have them?
- Why was the birth of Jesus Christ so important?

We will hold Bible talks again in our hall on Waverley Road in Mount Waverley from 14 February 2021 (God willing)

Further details next newsletter



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## Why was the birth of Jesus Christ so important?

We are first introduced to Jesus in the first chapter of the gospel of Matthew.

*Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.*

Matthew 1:20-21

Mary was given this important message, that Jesus was going to save his people from their sins.

But that wasn't all. He was the Son of God by his birth.

*And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.*

*And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. Luke 1:31,35*



His birth was very lowly, far from home in a stable in Bethlehem. Yet this was God's plan, to have the one who was going to rule the whole world born in David birth-place. And God proclaimed that this birth was not lowly, and certainly not unimportant.

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. Luke 2:13-14*

Because we are all human, we all sin, and Jesus death is therefore important to all of us.

*Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: Romans 5:12*

We all sin, but God sent his Son who did not sin so that we could all be saved from the result of that sin—death. By the one sinless life, God made salvation for all.

*For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.*

1 Corinthians 15:21-22

Why was the birth of Jesus Christ so important for all of us?

*And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world. 1 John 4:14*

## Bible Truth: God's promises to Noah

God has made important promises to people throughout history. God's promises are important because God always keeps His promises. One of these promises was to a man called Noah, about 4000 years ago. At that time, humans had become so wicked that God decided to destroy them with a world-wide flood. However, He saved faithful Noah and his family in an ark.

After the flood had subsided and Noah and his family were leaving the ark, God made a few promises to Noah. God promised that, "I will not again curse the ground any more for man's sake; for the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth; neither will I again smite any more every thing living, as I

have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease." (Genesis 8:21 – 22) He also promised Noah, his descendants (which includes everyone on the earth) and the animals that He would not flood the earth again and destroy all life with a flood. And He gave the rainbow as a sign of His commitment

(Genesis 9:8–12).

Seeing the rainbow after rain, gives us reassurance that we will not be subjected to another world-wide flood. However, God has promised that our earth is going to have a judgement day in the future. Peter warns how people have always scoffed at God's promises not

coming true, ignoring the example of Noah's time and ignoring the promise of a coming judgment. Let's make sure we don't ignore God's warning, but be prepared for God's coming judgement.

*The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance... Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! (2 Peter 3:9, 11 – 12 ESV)*



The Christadelphians are a world-wide lay community who believe in the Bible as the word of God.

We believe in one God and his son, Jesus, and believe that God has a plan with this earth. It is God's, and our, desire that you learn about Him and become part of that plan.

## Bible Tip for Life: Be Hospitable

The Bible gives many practical suggestions that can help your life now. One such advice is to be hospitable.

In God's law there were two important commandments – to love God and to love our neighbour. For the Israelites in Moses' time, that included strangers who came into their land. They were told to love those strangers and treat them like Israelites (Leviticus 19:33 – 34).

Later God told Israel that He wants to see people giving food to the hungry and inviting those without homes in to your house, rather than seeing people fast and afflicting themselves (Isaiah 58:6 – 7).

Later again, Jesus explained that the whole law and prophets hang on the commandments to love God and our neighbour. This shows how important it is that we are hospitable.

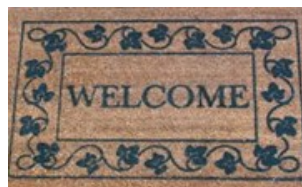
When the apostles were setting up the first churches in the first century, being hospitable was a necessary characteristic for certain positions.

- Widows wanting to receive assistance should have demonstrated hospitality previously (1 Timothy 5:9 – 10)
- People wanting to be bishops needed to love hospitality (Titus 1:6-8)

Being hospitable will have an impact on our eternal life. In Matthew 25, Jesus said he will judge people based on whether they:

- feed the hungry
- give drink to the thirsty take strangers in to your home
- give clothes to those who need them
- visit the sick
- visit those in prison

If we do these things Jesus will judge us worthy of being given eternal life.



In the Bible we have many examples of people who demonstrated their love for God and their neighbour by being hospitable to others. Jesus described himself as having no home, and yet he had a place to sleep because of the caring believers of the time. In Hebrews, the writer urges us to "let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (Hebrews 13:1 – 2). We should make sure that we take every opportunity to welcome others into our homes so that we are demonstrating our love for God and so we would be ready, even if an angel visited us.

*"And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins. Use hospitality one to another without grudging" (1 Peter 4:8 – 9)*

## Puzzle: Bible Scavenger Hunt



Use your Bible to fill in the blanks.

- The last book of the Bible \_\_\_\_\_
- The book after Daniel \_\_\_\_\_
- The first book of the New Testament \_\_\_\_\_
- The first word in the Bible \_\_\_\_\_
- The last word in the Bible \_\_\_\_\_
- The first book named for a woman \_\_\_\_\_

- The 20th book of the Bible \_\_\_\_\_
- The second book named for a woman \_\_\_\_\_
- The book before Jonah \_\_\_\_\_
- The last book of the Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_
- The book of the Bible with the shortest name \_\_\_\_\_
- The 2nd book of the Old Testament \_\_\_\_\_

## More Information

We are unable to do any seminars or presentations in-person at the moment. However, we are putting up videos on our website (bibletruth.net.au) and on Youtube (search bibletruth.net.au). Please have a look – there are videos on a variety of different Bible topics.

If you are interested in any topics, please email

info@bibletruth.net.au.

