ADVENT SERIES

Isn't it curious how we use Jesus' birthday as a reason to have a huge celebration in His honor, yet we give all the presents to someone else?

This series explores what the Christ Child might be looking for from us as we celebrate His birth

GIFTS FOR THE CHRIST CHILD: A LIFE OF HOPE

Isaiah 9:1-7

BIBLICAL HOPE, A DONE DEAL

"...will be no more gloom"

"He will honor..."

"the people...have seen..."

Note the mixing of past, present and future tenses. That is only possible with a God who is not bound by the constraints of time... (Gen. 1:1)

"HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?"

"The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this." - Isaiah 9:7

Zeal (Heb.): a reference to jealousy or envy

New Oxford Amer. "great energy or enthusiasm in pursuit of a cause or an objective"

"CAN I TRUST HIM?"

In truth, failure to live in hopeful expectation betrays a lack of faith. Consider Luke 1:18 and Heb. 11

Heb 10:23 "He who promised is faithful."

James 1:17 "He does not change like shifting shadows"

"I NEED MORE EVIDENCE"

•Romans 8:31-32 "He who did not spare His own Son..."

•Eph. 1:13-14 "the promised Holy Spirit...a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance"

"IF I COULD JUST SEE FOR MYSELF"

•Rom. 8:18-27 "Hope that is seen is no hope at all."

"SO, 'UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN' TELL ME MORE"

•Colossians 1:9-23

What gift can I give Him as I celebrate His birth?

How about a Hope-filled life?

Lamentations 3:19-24