

Messiah

Matthew 16v20

Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The book of *Genesis* in the Bible tells us that when Adam and Eve lived with God in the Garden of Eden, they sinned by eating the forbidden fruit and sin entered the world. (*Genesis* 3:6). God promised that He would save His people with the coming of Jesus the Messiah, (from the Hebrew word *mashiyach* which means "anointed one") who would also be related to Abraham and King David.

Jesus was born, the Messiah, in a stable in the town of Bethlehem (*Micah* 5:2). He is no ordinary child as this is the coming of God Himself in human flesh. This is the most important arrival in the history of the world and the beginning of the gospel.

Jesus died on the cross at Calvary because of God's love and mercy for us and so we could be set free from slavery to sin and Satan. Jesus is the only way for us to have a relationship with God the Father. Jesus' death was not final because He came back from the dead three days later. Jesus said, "For it is my Father's will that all who see His Son and believe in Him should have eternal life, and that I should raise them at the last day." (*John* 6: 40)

Christmas shows God's heart, God's promise and God's salvation. But we have got used to the habits and celebrations of the Christmas season. We clean the house, buy presents and send cards. We need to be careful that we don't forget what Christmas is about. It is easy, especially during Christmas time, to allow the world to tell us who Jesus is and was, but we must make sure that what we know about the Messiah is due to God's word in the Bible. Let this Christmas be the time when you reconsider the Messiah and think about what it means to worship Him.

It is so amazing to think what God has done just for us. So, this Christmas may we say from our hearts, "Lord Jesus, you are the Messiah, and all nations bow down before you. Heavenly Father we praise You for sending Jesus as the promised Messiah".

How has Advent helped you see God's heart, promise and salvation in your day-to-day life?