

THE Wonder OF CHRISTMAS

*A*nd the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory,
the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:4

“Incarnate” (the Embodiment)... God, taking on, or having a bodily form.

Dear Friends of Freedom House,

December 2010

The wonder of Christmas is a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. How vulnerable, how tiny, how lowly and weak, helpless, dependent, exposed... and yet; how glorious!

Sent to experience all that mankind experiences and yet determined to live selfless and choosing to walk His Father's will and way, without sin. Love in shoe leather. All the while, knowing that He would become the righteous sacrifice for the redemption price of all who will call upon Him. What a price, to take upon Himself the guilt and sin of all mankind that we, by the grace of God and his obedient, substitutionary effort on the cross may grant us... His righteousness. What a gift exchange!

It is a continuous reminder nestled in these holidays, year by year, century by century. Yes a “heralded” reminder, that we are eternal, created souls worth so very much to our Creator that He would establish this great choice for each man to believe and receive His great gift of redemption. Not by works of our own righteousness, but by His grace and truth alone, actively rebuilding a life worth living from the tattered history of our own individual failures and the painful brokenness of our past lives. What a Savior!

It is a message worth both living and dying for... the great message of hope. The ultimate do over. Thank you Jesus! He didn't simply come and leave an example for us to try to emulate... no, no! You see He purchased our redemption and then sealed the deal by resurrecting from that cold, dark tomb. Overcoming death, hell and the grave! Revealing to this world the greatest victory of all... Eternal Life and Light to all who will respond. Freedom forever and Joy beyond measure.

We here at Freedom House experience this life changing drama unfold, within some of the very neediest of people, (*beginning with me, as pastor, founder and director!*). Oh come let us adore Him!

It is my heartfelt hope and desire that you, who add your faith to ours, by helping men find new life and freedom from addictions, alcoholism, crime and darkness will enjoy a most blessed Christmas season and a peaceful, transition into a glorious New Year. 2020 is surely going to be quite a ride.

As I close, may I ask you to pray over a final year end free will offering, hopefully your best, all of which will go to meet needs as we continue to share these daily efforts to introduce men to “the Word made flesh”, ministering to those who are desperate for “Freedom” and a path to new life in Christ. Most of our men are homeless when they arrive... and all come hopeless. Thus, a Loving God and loving people are still really what it is all about.

We are grateful for all of you who have chosen to make FHM one of your favorite charitable choices to support. We rejoice as your faith joins ours in this residential, full-year, discipleship program. We continue to turn no one away for lack of funds.

So from all of us here, whether staff, volunteers or students, *Merry Christmas!*

Emmanuel, God with Us.

Pastor Jim

Pastor Jim and Geri Cottrell, along with all at Freedom House



Helping those who desire freedom from addictions and life-controlling problems.