

The Christian Arsenal

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WHY WAS CHRISTMAS NECESSARY?

Dr. Ken Culver

1. TO ERASE THE MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT GOD.

At creation God made us in His image and today we try to make God in our image.

Instead of “This is the day the Lord has made,” it’s “This is the Lord the day has made.”

So, how does Jesus clear up these misconceptions?

TWO WAYS:

- By what He taught.
- By the way He lived.

“Jesus said, ‘This is why I was born and came into the world. To tell people the truth.’” John 18:37 (NCV)

“No one has ever seen God. The only one who is the same as God has made Him known.” John 1:18 (NIV)

WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT GOD FROM HIS CREATION?

- God likes variety.
- God is organized.
- God is powerful.
- God is creative.
- God has a sense of humor.

THERE ARE SOME THINGS ABOUT GOD WE ONLY KNOW BECAUSE OF JESUS.

- God is loving.
- God forgives us.
- God has a plan for our lives.

JESUS SHATTERED A BUNCH OF MYTHS ABOUT GOD

- God is distant and detached.

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- God is uncaring and unconcerned.
- God is unmerciful and unpleasable.

“Jesus is the light to reveal God to the nation.” Luke 2:32 (NLT)

“Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father.” John 14:9 (NIV)

“EMANUEL – God is with us.” Matt. 1:23

2. TO EXPRESS THE LOVE OF GOD.

The best expression of love is not your presents, but your presence!

God didn't just send a present. He came Himself.

“God showed how much He love us by sending His only Son into the world that we might have eternal life through Him. This is real love that God sent His Son as a sacrifice to take away our sins.” I John 4:9-10 (NLT)

Love is not about getting, but giving.

“God so loved the world that He gave His only Son...” John 3:16 (NLT)

GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU IS FOUR DIMENSIONAL

“May you be able to feel and understand how long, how wide, how deep and how high God's love really is and to experience this love for yourself.” Eph 3:18,19 (LB)

LONG: Long enough to last forever.

WIDE: Wide enough to be everywhere.

DEEP: Deep enough to handle any hurt you give Him – or any problem.

HIGH: High enough to look over our mistakes.

God's love is based on His character, not yours.

He loves unconditionally.

3. TO ENABLE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

“His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into His own family by bringing us to Himself through Jesus Christ.” Eph 1:5 (NLT)

The Bible says that God made you to love Him.

“So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God – all because of what our Lord Jesus Christ has done for us in making us friends of God.”

Romans 5:11 (NLT)

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Jesus didn't come for religion}

Jesus didn't come for rules}

Jesus didn't come for rituals}

but a relationship

"You're all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:26 (NLT)

DON'T MISS THE PURPOSE OF CHRISTMAS!

It's now about what's under the tree – It's about the Guy who hung on the cross.