



THE PERSONAL
MESSAGE OF CHRISTMAS



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There is a very personal note in the Christmas message which is frequently missed by many. The birth of Jesus is not simply an interesting fact of history wholly unrelated to your present life . . . but rather it has a direct bearing upon it.

When the angel announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds, the personal importance of His coming was emphasized. He said, *"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord"* (Luke 2: 10, 11).

Have you ever thought that it was for *you* the Saviour was born? Do you realize that when God sent His Son into the world, He sent Him to become *your* Saviour? Listen to the word of the herald angel, *"I bring you good tidings of great joy . . . for unto you is born . . . a Saviour."* Yes . . . it was for *you* that Jesus came.

He did not come to be the inspiration of sacred art, nor to be the theme of glad song, much less to be merely a good man and a

great teacher . . . Jesus came to be the *Saviour*, and as such He was born to *you*.

Bound inseparably together are the Saviour's birth and His death. He came to save, and to save He must die . . . die in the sinner's stead, bearing the full penalty of divine wrath for sin. This too was personal—it was for *you*.

And such a very personal message of God's love and grace demands a personal response. The Saviour who was born was *God's gift to you*. And He wants you to receive that gift. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16).

To receive the gift of God by faith you must believe that Christ actually was born to be *your* Saviour and that He died for *your* sins. Because He arose victorious over death, He offers you abundant, everlasting life.

Won't you receive the gift of God this Christmas? It can be your best Christmas yet!

—Dr. Willard M. Aldrich
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