



REFLECTIONS

December 20, 2015

**For to us a child is born, to us a son is given...
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Isaiah 9:6

Word Became Flesh—the Bible Story

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. (*John 1:1-5*)

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, (*Matthew 1:18-26*) ... God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. (*Luke 1:26-28, 30-32*)

Now Joseph... went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem... to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was... the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. (*Luke 2:4-7 NKJV*)

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. (*John 1:14a*) He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but... (*John 1:10-13a*) Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death — even death on a cross!

We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (*John 1:14b*) Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (*Philippians 2:6-11*)

Merry Christmas

You are the light of the world,

Richard +

www.reflectingthesavior.org

Permission is hereby granted for reproduction and redistribution of this edition of *Reflections* provided all applicable copyright laws are properly observed.

Your comments are welcomed and encouraged. Richard may be reached at richard@reflectingthesavior.org.