

December 2020



Merry Christmas!

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11 ESV

When Samuel was born in the old testament the Bible says, "The word of the Lord was rare in those days." 1 Samuel 3:1, ESV. But then God used Samuel in a great way as a Prophet and Priest. God spoke through him to the people. Now we fast forward to the last book in the Old Testament, the book of Malachi. The last two verses read like this, "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a degree of utter destruction."

This was followed by 400 years of prophetic silence. I wonder what it must've been like in those 400 years? The animal sacrifices continued, the High Priest continued to minister and make atonement for the people's sins. Just think what it would be like to not hear from God. The Holy Spirit was not yet given to the people. But then the silence was broken by the angel Gabriel! He appeared to a priest named Zachariah whose wife Elizebeth was barren and they were both well advanced in years. The angel told him, your wife is going to conceive and give birth to a son and you shall call his name John. Can you imagine the surprise of Zachariah and his wife?!

Six months later the angel Gabriel showed up again in a small village named Nazareth, and talked to a young virgin named Mary. You're going to have a baby boy and you shall call him Jesus.

Both of these prophetic words were fulfilled! It totally changed the course of history! We know John the Baptist as the forerunner of Christ. We discover in Matthew 11 from verses 11-14, John the Baptist was the fulfillment of Malachi 4:5,6. In Mark chapter 1 we read that John appeared proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And it says that all the country of Judea and Jerusalem was going out to him to be baptized by him in the river Jordan and they were confessing their sins. He followed this up by

saying "after me comes one who is mightier than I, the strap of his sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Right after this is when Jesus appears on the scene at the age of 30 and begins his ministry. At Christmas we remember the birth of Jesus. And that is where the focus seems to be. It is important to focus on the virgin birth of Christ but let us also remember that was the beginning of what led to three of the most powerful years of ministry the world has ever seen culminating in the death of Jesus Christ on the cross. As great as all of the miracles of healing and provision that were done by Jesus while He was here on earth, the ultimate greatest miracle of all is how it's possible to take a sinful human heart and transform it into a righteous person that can stand before a sinless holy God and be granted entrance into heaven. All because of what Jesus did for us by His death on the cross.

The giving and receiving of gifts at Christmas is normal in most households. In my childhood most of the gifts we received at Christmas were small items like fruit or a little candy but once in a while it was a larger gift like the dump truck that I still have to this day. Another gift that I received at Christmas as a young boy was a Daisy BB gun. I still have it and it's in working condition. But the emphasis was always on the birth of Christ and what he's done for us. The emphasis was never so much on the giving and receiving of physical gifts but rather the greatest gift of all which is salvation through Jesus Christ.

So this Christmas season let's not forget the real reason we're celebrating Christmas! Enjoy your Christmas decorations, family time, gifts under the Christmas tree and all the food that is prepared! But let's also remember it's a wonderful time to teach our children and grandchildren the true meaning of Christmas and why we celebrate it! Elsie and I as well as all of us at Souls4him want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a very blessed new year!

Philip Stutzman



Souls4Him Ministries

Our Mission: Calling people to a vibrant relationship with Jesus Christ.

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Board of Directors: David Swartzentruber, Vice President;
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Philip Stutzman, President



Phil & Elsie

Ministry Update

Before Covid a lot of our ministry was in churches in prisons. Most of my preaching was live with in person attendance. One of the blessings of going through Covid has been expanding the way we do ministry. I have done some social media posts for a long time but have increased that since we've not been doing in person services. It's been really interesting to read some of the feedback. Another thing I've had to realize is that the audience is much larger by way of the Internet than in person. I do however still prefer in person services. But the time we're living in has brought some change in the way we do ministry. So people are still being touched by the same Gospel and it's exciting to see what God is doing. I'm receiving feedback from the United States as well as Africa. So it's kinda like preaching in all of these different places without actually going there in person.

- Here's a few of the responses that have come to me in the last several months.
- "Thank you so much for sharing the word of Jesus with us. You have touched my spirit."
- "Thank you, once again, for sharing your heart!"
- "Amen, I am blessed with this message. May God bless you."
- "Wow Pastor Phil, powerful word. You do an excellent job with these clips."
- "Not all things that are beautiful or legal. Now that's a good word that will preach." Bless you Phil.
- "Thank you for sharing the unfiltered truth Philip! The world's filter sugarcoats these words. May God bless you for your message!"
- "Oh, that The world would come to repentance before it's too late! Keep on preaching the truth of God's word, Phil."
- "Wow! Thanks for sharing this with me."

Bible Testimony

Tabitha Nganga sent me this message last week from Kenya Africa expressing thanks for the 2 Bibles she received through our ministry. Thank you to each one of you that has made it possible for us to distribute Bibles in Africa. In the last several months we have sent a lot of Bibles to Africa with friends of ours that are making the trip. Our Bible fund is quite low so if you feel led to help please designate your donation for the Bible Fund.

Here is Tabitha's message:

Hallelujah man of God! I thank God for seeing you in this global village. I'll never forget that you twice have blessed me with a good Bible which I still use up to now. The first time when you came with Pastor Mullet (This was in 1992) you left me with a Bible that I also gave to a believer in a refugee camp.

I received this beautiful Bible from Pastor Philip and his wife in the year October 2006. The boy holding the Bible with me was seven months then. God bless this family.



One of my special Christmas presents I received growing up. The hydraulic dump still works.

This is my Daisy BB gun I received for Christmas one year and yes it still works



Year End Giving

Would you help us in our 2021 planning with a generous year end gift. We depend a lot on year end giving to meet our budget. Whether it's \$10 or \$10,000, your gift will make a significant difference in presenting Jesus around the world!



We have a Souls4Him page on FB or you can follow me on FB and Instagram under Philip Stutzman. Many have told me how they follow me as a "silent" follower and can keep up with what we are doing.

WHO WE ARE

Philip Stutzman Souls4Him Ministries invites people to authentic relationship in Jesus Christ. We do this through Evangelistic Meetings and Awake! Meetings in churches, prisons and community meetings, stateside and overseas. Having a 501 (c) (3) tax exempt status makes all gifts tax deductible.