

# WHAT COMES TO MY MIND WHEN I THINK ABOUT CHRISTMAS...

December 19, 2021

## A. Christmas Is Shrouded in the Unknown

1. The unknown \_\_\_\_\_ of the Messiah...

a. The idea of a \_\_\_\_\_ Messiah was nowhere on the Jewish radar.

***"He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain. Like one from whom people hide their faces he was despised, and we held him in low esteem. Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed."***  
(Isaiah 53:3-5)

***"I am a worm and not a man, scorned by everyone, despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads. 'He trusts in the LORD,' they say, 'let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him'... Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet. All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me. They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment."***  
(Psalm 22:6-8, 16-18)

b. The idea of the Messiah being \_\_\_\_\_ was nowhere on the Jewish radar.

***"Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom. You love righteousness and hate wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy."*** (Psalm 45:6-7)

2. The unknown \_\_\_\_\_ of the Messiah...

a. What did the \_\_\_\_\_ know and not know regarding Jesus?

***"A man in their synagogue who was possessed by an impure spirit cried out, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are – the Holy One of God!'"*** (Mark 1:23-24)

***"What do you want with us, Son of God?" (the demons) shouted..."*** (Matthew 8:29a)

***"We declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory."*** (1 Corinthians 2:8)

b. What did the \_\_\_\_\_ know and not know regarding Jesus?

***“Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with great care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of the Messiah and the glories that would follow... Even angels long to look into these things.”*** (1 Peter 1:10-11, 12b)

c. The angels and the demons knew \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus \_\_\_\_\_,  
and \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus had \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_,  
but they had *no idea* as to \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus would \_\_\_\_\_.

### ***Today's “Big Idea”...***

The meaning of Christmas is: \_\_\_\_\_.

***“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”***  
(John 3:16)

## **FAMILY MATTERS**

**Congratulations** to Consuelo Espinosa on her 94th birthday this past week.

## **TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP AT BROADWAY CHURCH**



## **SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What do most people think about when they think of Christmas?
2. What does Christmas mean to you?
3. Have you ever been in a situation that you haven't understood until later?
4. What part of the nature of the Messiah resonates with you during this Christmas season?
5. Does the Big Idea make you uncomfortable? If so, why?
6. If you are looking for a winter small group, please email [discipleship@broadwaychurch.com](mailto:discipleship@broadwaychurch.com).

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