

## **TIME TO CELEBRATE – Part 3**

### **Christmas – The Most Wonderful Time of Year**

*Luke 2:8-10 That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. 9Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, 10but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people.*

#### **1. The First Purpose of Christmas is CELEBRATION!**

- **We Celebrate Because God LOVES Us.**

*John 3:16 For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.*

- **We Celebrate Because God is WITH Us.**

- **We Celebrate Because God is FOR Us.**

*John 3:17 God sent His Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.*

#### **2. The Second Purpose of Christmas is SALVATION!**

*Luke 2:11 The Savior – yes, the Messiah, the Lord – has been born today in Bethlehem, the city David.*

- **We're Saved from SIN.**

*Matthew 1:21 And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus for he will save His people from their sins.*

- **We're Saved for a PURPOSE.**

2 Timothy 1:9 *For God saved us and called us to live a holy life. He did this, not because we deserve it, but because that was his plan and purpose before the beginning of time – to show us his grace through Christ Jesus.*

- **We're Saved by God's GRACE.**

**Grace = God's Riches At Christ's Expense**

Ephesians 2:8-9 *God saved you by his grace when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God. 9Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it.*

### **3. The Third Purpose of Christmas – RECONCILIATION!**

Luke 2:13-14 (KJV) *Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace good will toward men.*

- **We Need Peace With God = SPIRITUAL Peace.**

Romans 5:1 *Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.*

- **We Need the Peace of God = EMOTIONAL Peace.**

Philippians 4:6-7 *Don't worry about anything. Instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for all that He has done. 7Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus."*

Acts 10:35 (MSG) *"It makes no difference who you are or where you're from. If you want God, and you're ready to do as He says, the door is open."*