<u>Christmas Every Day</u>

Most people associate Christmas with happiness, yet thousands of people will be lonelier, more frustrated and disturbed in the next few days than during the entire year. They may fake it out, and give the facade of having a fantastic time, but underneath that facade there is great frustration. This is not God's plan for the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, and this is not God's plan for the lost person.

- 1. There is no way for happiness apart from a right, personal relationship to Jesus Christ. Acts 4:12 says "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." John 3:36 declares, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."
- 2. When a person accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, he or she has received the greatest gift that God could ever offer to the human race. We see in I John 5:11-12 "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life."
- 3. This gift becomes personal to man, based totally upon the grace of God. Ephesians 2:8-9 says "For by grace are ye saved through faith: and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works lest any man should boast".
- 4. Now, if you have already accepted Jesus Christ as your savior, you are in God's magnificent plan. He made ample preparation millions and millions of years ago for you not just to have Christmas once a year, but have Christmas *every day!* The Bible describes this with the terminology "BETTER THINGS" in Hebrews 6:9 "But, beloved, we are persuaded better things concerning you attached to salvation..." The eternal state of the Lord Jesus Christ is "beloved". As believers, we share

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everything He has. We're recipients of His love. *He* loves you, whether anyone else does or not. In this verse "We are persuaded" is also translated "We are confident" (the perfect passive indicative means we have had confidence in the past, with the result that we keep on having that confidence). Christmas every day for the born-again believer is totally dependent upon that person's capacity for life. Having capacity for life is determined by the ability to think as Jesus thinks; and that, of course, is the result of maximum saturation with the truth of God, found in the Bible.

- 5. As believers in the Age of Grace, we have "BETTER THINGS" than in any other age of history. There were many outstanding Christians in the Old Testament era people who lived by faith (Hebrews 11) and who had great happiness. Yet, they did not have two of the "BETTER THINGS" which we have today: the universal indwelling of the Holy Spirit and a universal priesthood. These better things make every day Christmas; and if every day isn't Christmas with you, then no day is, in reality, Christmas!!
- 6. Every morning, when you awake, the Lord is saying, "MERRY CHRISTMAS". His happiness is our happiness and it is ours simply by opening a new Christmas package every day, because the content of the Word of God IS the BETTER THINGS.
- 7. As the Lord gives us one day at a time during the weeks and months of the year of our Lord 1995, many people will enjoy Christmas every single day, as they are faithful recipients of the communication of God's Word.

My prayer for the people, whom I love dearly, is that they know the joy of having: CHRISTMAS – EVERY DAY!