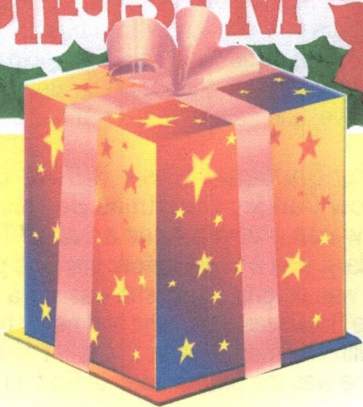


I Wish You a

MERRY
CHRISTMAS



I Wish You a Merry Christmas

How Do We Describe Christmas?

We say, "MERRY Christmas".

What Does "Merry" Mean?

It is a word of comfort, meaning "**gladness, joyfulness** and **cheerfulness** (these are Bible synonyms), used interchangeably with **merry**."

What is So "Merry" About Christmas?

It features the most unique birth, ever...the birth of Jesus. His birth was a one-of-a-kind **virgin birth**. The only one in the history of the world. God said this would happen hundreds of years before it occurred, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son..."¹ It has been His plan.

The First Christmas was a MERRY Christmas.

How Can My Christmas Be "Merry"?

First, How can a virgin have a baby? This young woman, Mary, was a virgin **before** she was pregnant, **while** she was pregnant, and she was still a virgin on the day the Baby was born. She had never had sexual intimacy with any man...never. She went on record when told that she was the one, chosen of God, to have the

Christ child, "Thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shalt call His name JESUS."² Mary replied, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?"³ God said that He would directly cause her pregnancy. "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise...she was found with child of the Holy [Spirit]"⁴ and "That which is conceived in her is of the Holy [Spirit]. She shall bring forth a Son, and call His name, JESUS..."⁵ Mary was told directly, that "The Holy [Spirit] shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."⁶ "Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it unto me according to thy word."⁷ So, for the first time, and the only time ever, a virgin was pregnant -- and with the Son of God, Jesus Christ.



Second, Why did God the Father want a Son?

God the Father needed for God the Son to be born into the human family, so that the human race could have a spiritual option. Sin has separated us from our Holy God. We need the Son to get back to God.

The birth of Jesus was God becoming flesh. At the end of Jesus' earthly life, He died on a Cross, not for His sins--He had none, but for our sins. Jesus' death was a payment, that we could not pay. ("The wages of sin is death".)⁸ But we, as sinners, could not make a righteous payment. Only our righteous God, taking flesh (so He could die), could purchase our salvation. "For she (Mary) shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins."⁹

Finally, How does all this make my Christmas

Merry? A MERRY Christmas occurs when you receive the **Gift** of God, in the person of Jesus Christ, as your personal Savior. Believe, ask and you shall receive.

"For God so loved the world, that He **gave** His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life."¹⁰ **Merry Christmas**



1 Isaiah 7:14 ; 2 Luke 1:31; 3 Luke 1:34; 4 Matthew 1:18;
5 Matthew 1:20, 21; 6 Luke 1:35; 7 Luke 1:38; 8 Romans 6:23;
9 Matthew 1:21; 10 John 3:16

--George Anderson, ©2012, www.DentonBaptist.com