



Son of Man, Sent by God




A SERIES FOR ADVENT



Hope Through Humanity

SON OF MAN, SENT BY GOD



A man in a dark suit and red tie stands at a podium on a stage, holding a black folder and a small device. Behind him is a large presentation screen with a dark blue background, a white crescent moon at the top, and silhouettes of figures in the lower half. The text on the screen reads "Love For Humanity" and "SON OF MAN, SENT BY GOD".

Love For Humanity

SON OF MAN, SENT BY GOD



Joy to Humanity

SON OF MAN, SENT BY GOD





the world, the Lord
is come

Joy to Humanity

SON OF MAN, SENT BY GOD



Joy



Joy



What exactly is joy?

What does joy really mean?

And most importantly...

how do I find joy?

The words "Joy", "Joyful"
or "Rejoice" appear
430 times in the Bible.

The words "Happy" or
"Happiness" appear 10 times.

Happiness comes from our
circumstances.

Joy is something much
deeper...

something that doesn't
depend on our circumstances.

James 1:2-3

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.”

Philippians 4:4

“Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, rejoice.”

God clearly wants us
to experience joy.

But...

Where does joy come from?

How do I find it?

Where does joy come from?

How do I find it?

John 15:10-11

“If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.”

His joy.

In us.

Joy does not exist
in my circumstances.

Joy exists in God.

When God (the Holy Spirit)
is within me, God's full dose
of joy is within me.

Galatians 5:22-23

**"But the fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness
and self-control."**

God wants me to have joy.

It is God who gives me joy.

But why do we talk so much
about joy at Christmastime?

Luke 2:1-11

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

Luke 2:1-11

He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

Luke 2:1-11

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord.

**"Good news that will
cause great joy for
all people."**

"I am with you."

"I have forgiven you."

**"I have great things
in store for you."**

1. Christmas brings the Joy of God's Presence.

- He is one of us.
- He knows us.
- He is always with us.

Hebrews 4:14-16

“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet He did not sin.

Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

John 14:16-17

“If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept Him, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. But you know Him, for He lives with you and will be in you.”

Matthew 1:22-23

"All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel'
(which means *God with us*)."

**We're never alone.
God is always with us.**

2. Christmas brings the Joy of God's Forgiveness.

- Jesus came to give His life.
- Every barrier between us
and God is removed.

Matthew 9:1-6

Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to His own town. Some men brought to Him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the man, "Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven." At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, "This fellow is blaspheming! Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, "Why do you entertain evil thoughts in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."

1 John 1:8-9

**“If we claim to be without sin,
we deceive ourselves and the truth
is not in us. If we confess our sins,
He is faithful and just and will forgive
us our sins and purify us from
all unrighteousness.”**

**There is nothing we can
do that will separate
us from God.**

He is always a prayer away.

3. Christmas brings the Joy of a Bright Future.

- Heaven...yes.
- But right now. We always
have hope.

Romans 8:26-28

“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.”

Joy is a deep sense of cheerful expectation, knowing that God is with us, He loves us, and He is going to work things out.

Communion



