Because of Jesus

We have peace that that passes understanding. We have joy that can't be taken away. We have love that's everlasting. We have nothing to fear and everything to hope for today, tomorrow, and always.

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL ABOUT CHRISTMAS?

For Kids – Presents

For Retail Stores – Sales

Radio Stations – Christmas Carols

Christmas Traditions – Christmas trees, Decorations, Lights, and being with Family, Christmas Dinner

> **BUT WHAT'S THE REAL BIG DEAL ABOUT CHRISTMAS**?

<u>HINT</u>: It's the Reason for the Season!

GOD CAME TO EARTH TO SAVE MANKIND!

The LORD JESUS CHRIST was born of a virgin in the right place at the right time.

The mode of the birth: the HYPOSTATIC UNION

NASV <u>Hebrews 1:3</u> And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power.

NIV <u>Hebrews 1:3</u> The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

NKJV <u>Hebrews 1:3</u> who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power

<u>HUPOSTASIS</u> (ὑπόστασις) n. gsf, ① the essential or basic structure/nature of an entity, substantial nature, essence, actual being, reality. Jesus Christ is one hundred percent true humanity and true deity united in one Person forever.

He is the only God/man in the universe!

The first mention of God providing salvation for mankind is given in <u>Genesis 3:15</u> where Jesus Christ was referred to as the "seed of the woman" and that Satan would bruise (wound) Him on the Heel and Jesus would bruise (crush) Satan on the head.

Just think what it cost Jesus Christ to be born as a man.

- He was exalted God who lived in the splendor and glory of heaven.
- He received worship and adoration from the untold billions of angels that He created.
- He never lacked anything and never experienced such things as pain, sorrow, or humiliation.
- He took on the form of a creature that is lower than angels.
- The physical body He was born with will be His for all eternity.
- He would have to experience the torture and agony of the cross in His body.

The Lord's birthday resulted in a new way of setting dates:

BC – before Christ AD – anno Domini = the year of our lord

From <u>Christ's Birthday</u> came his <u>Death Day</u> and from His <u>Death Day</u> comes <u>Our Eternal</u> <u>Life Day!</u> Of course His birth had to take place in the right place, at the right time, and in the right way.

The right place was Bethlehem.

<u>Micah 5:2</u> But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Too little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity."

This prophecy was made 700 years before it came to pass.

<u>Matthew 2:1</u> Now after <u>Jesus was born in</u> <u>Bethlehem</u> of Judea in the days of Herod the king,

The RIGHT TIME.

<u>Galatians 4:4</u> But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman...

He had to be born when He was to fulfill the prophecy in *Dan. 9:24-26*

The RIGHT WAY.

The Son of God would be born to a poor peasant girl who was the fiancé of a carpenter. He would not be born in a palace or grand temple but in a stable. <u>Genesis 3:15</u> And I [God] will put enmity between you [serpent/Satan] and the woman, and between your [Satan's] seed [unregenerate mankind] and her [the woman's] seed [Jesus Christ]; He [Jesus] shall bruise you [Satan] on_the head [a fatal blow], and you [Satan] shall bruise him [Jesus Christ] on the heel."

After Adam sinned, all mankind required a Redeemer!
1. He would have to be the Son of God.
2. He would have to die in order to take our punishment.
3. this would require that he would have to be human.
4. He would have to be a male. Gen. 3:15 – He shall bruise you...
5. He had to be absolutely free from sin. Isa. 7:14, Matt. 1:20 & 23

- 6. His genealogy began with Abraham (<u>Matt. 1:2)</u> and recorded through Joseph (<u>Matt. 1:16)</u>.
- He was Joseph's legal father but not his natural father. And goes all the way back to Adam (<u>Luke</u> <u>3:23-38</u>).

8. Matthew 1:17 Therefore all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the time of Christ fourteen generations. (about 2,000 years)

Matthew 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.

He would be from the tribe of Judah. (Gen. 49:10). Announcement to Mary – Luke 1:26-33 Announcement to Joseph – Matthew 1:18-25 Announcement to shepherds – Luke 2:1-20 ISAIAH 9:6-7 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7) Of the increase of His government and peace, There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.