

Becoming human- giving glory. 16 December_2018.

(PP1) Becoming human- giving glory x 50 Sunday 16 December_2018.

Image: fallen and broken star – Israel – I find it helpful to try to keep just one thought trying to keep central throughout season....in a complex and suffering world.

Christmas is a celebration that Jesus Christ came into the world to fix something that is broken in us and the world.



Story – fallen from tree...redeemed from the waste/ rubbish bin...in the middle of a frustrating day. (Glass doors wrong specs). Contemplation and meditation. (I saw Satan **fall** like lightening from heaven – Jesus says to the 70 or 72 on return in *Luke 10:18*. Quoting from *Isaiah 14: 12-14* which is about the fall of the King of Babylon)

5 dimensions of brokenness in RELATIONSHIP Jesus came to challenge and fix:

- Relationship to God
- Relationship to neighbour
- Relationship to ourselves – interior identity
- Relationship to the environment
- Relationship to time

(Revelation 21: 1-6. Esp. verse 5 “ I AM making everything new!”)

In Mary’s song of joy (**the Magnificat**) that she declares after Elizabeth greets her at the awareness that she - Mary is to give birth to the LORD she declares all sorts of relationships that will be changed because of the birth of Jesus. Bethlehem and not Jerusalem are honoured by the birth.

READ LUKE 2: 46 – 55.

The birth narratives tell us of the lowly and ordinary people and foreigners God uses and involves around the birth and coming of Jesus. The proud like Herod with all their plans are indeed scattered and the weak and marginalised are the key players in this work of redemption: a young girl becomes the mother who delivers Jesus, an artisan

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carpenter cares for and adopts a pregnant woman and a fatherless child, working shepherds are invited to see the child in a manger and even the Magi visiting from other nations – are not of the Jewish nation but are drawn from a great distance.

In the Kingdom of Jesus, the Messiah mighty kings have been brought down and the lowly lifted up. Mary speaks of Jesus literally turning the world upside down. In Jesus comes one who is more interested in raising up the poor and seeking justice from religious and political rulers and oppressors.

Christmas is a celebration that Jesus Christ came into the world to fix something that is broken in us and the world.

If Jesus is given his rightful and central place in our lives and in creation, then the brokenness begins to heal as “everything is made new”.

“Come to me, all of you who are tired from carrying heavy loads and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you and learn from me because I am gentle and humble in spirit; and you will find rest. For the yoke I will give you is easy and the load I will put on you is light”. Matt 11: 28

Jesus is strong in spiritual authority but gentle and kind in his treatment and patience with humanity. *“A bruised reed he will not break or put out a flickering lamp”* Isaiah 42: 3.

For those willing to acknowledge to God that they are broken and see in Jesus the One with authority and goodness to heal there is Salvation.

READ Luke 1: 46b to 49. We too can say with Mary:

My heart praises the Lord; my soul is glad because of God my Saviour, for he has remembered me, his lowly servant!

From now on all people will call me happy, because of the great things the Mighty God has done for me.

His name is holy...

Christmas is a celebration that Jesus Christ came into the world to fix something that is broken in us and the world.

Jesus repairs that which no one and nothing else can make good.