

# Christmas, A line in Time

Matthew 1:18-25



# Christmas Changed Mary and Joseph's World

- We do not know how Mary and Joseph met, we do not know how old they were, we only know that they were engaged to be married
- Imagine what the Angel's news meant to Mary and Joseph; people would never view them the same, they would always be that couple who had to get married.
- They would always feel the weight of the responsibility with which God had entrusted them.
- Mary probably could not comprehend God's plan when she held her son and laid Him in a borrowed manger.



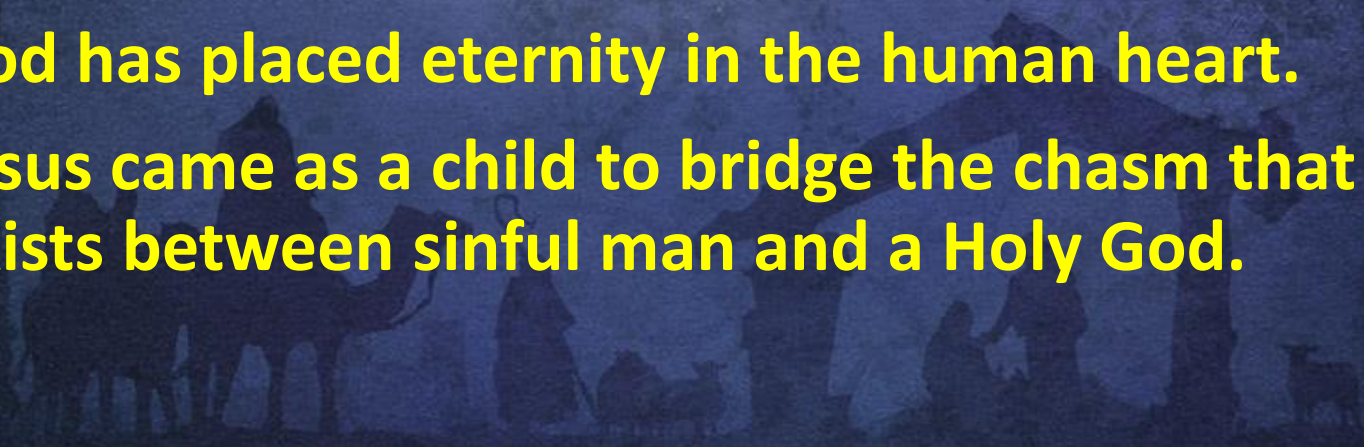
# Christmas Changed Simon Peter's World

- Because of the first Christmas, the largest church in the world, a city in Russia, and many hospitals all share the name of a Jewish Fisherman.
- Peter became one of Jesus' closest friends.
- Jesus was not looking for people who would die for Him, He was looking for people who would live for Him.
- Because Jesus was born, Peter went from being a fisherman to the very foundation of the Church universal.
- Peter was not rich, and he was not perfect, but he was willing.
- Because Peter was willing, the church that would change the world had its beginning.



# Christmas Changed Our World

- Jesus did not come so we could have Christmas; Jesus did not come so we could have a religion, He *“came to seek and to save the lost.”*
- Each of us is born with a longing for more.
- God has placed eternity in the human heart.
- Jesus came as a child to bridge the chasm that exists between sinful man and a Holy God.





# Christmas Changed an Adulterous Woman

- Because there was a Christmas, there was a Jesus to save the woman who had been caught in adultery from the consequences of her actions.
- Jesus offered this woman two gifts.
- The first gift Jesus offered was forgiveness from her past.
- The second and greatest gift that Jesus offered the woman was the gift of a new future.
- Symbolically, the woman caught in adultery represents all of us.

# Conclusion

- The challenge is not to keep Christ in Christmas, it is to get Christ out of Christmas and to allow Him to change our lives and to change the world.
- Christmas truly can be a line in time for us.

