

**SIMPLE CHRISTMAS**  
**Simple Message**  
Roger Pryor—December 13, 2009

**SKIPPING CHRISTMAS?**

**CULTURAL REASONS FOR CHRISTMAS**

1. **Federal** holiday
2. **Tradition**
3. **Reconnect** with family and friends
4. **Need to give**
5. **Economy** demands it

**HISTORICAL REASON FOR CHRISTMAS**

**SIMPLE MESSAGE**

*"...a time of darkness and despair will not go on forever."*

*For there will be a time in the future when Galilee ... will be filled with glory. The people who walk in darkness will see a great light—a light that will shine on all who live in the land where death casts its shadow. Isaiah 9:1-2 (NLT)*

*... a child is born to us, a son is given to us. Isaiah 9:6 (NLT)*

*"... Do not be afraid to go ahead with your marriage to Mary. For the child within her has been conceived by the Holy Spirit. And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:20-21 (NLT)*

*...All of this happened to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet: "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and he will be called Immanuel (meaning, God is with us)." Matthew 1:22-23 (NLT)*

**WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

1. **Jesus**

*...for he will save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21 (NLT)*

2. **Lamb of God**

*"Look! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29 (NLT)*

*And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's judgment. Romans 5:9 (NLT)*

3. **Messiah**

*"The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!" Luke 2:11 (NLT)*

*Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved... Acts 16:31 (NLT)*

4. **Immanuel**

*The Word became human and lived here on earth among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the only Son of the Father. John 1:14 (NLT)*

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