



THE PASTOR'S PEN

November 21, 2016

The Miracle of Miracles

We have often extolled the greatest miracle to be the conception and birth of a child. How much greater the miracle when it's God's own child, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin...a child given for all and meant to be the savior of everyone! So it is that we come to the Season of Advent and we have the opportunity to share in the miracle of miracles all over again. It can, my friends, be more a miracle to you than just another pleasant Christmas. It can be a holiday or a Holy night, fulfilled promise or religious propaganda. It's all in your perspective. For the believer, however, it all begins with the faithfulness of God, upon which our own faith and faithfulness can be pinned. Of course, in the sparse evidence of these days, when we're sidetracked by circumstance and challenged by materialistic denials of any first cause, such faith seems foolish. Except...except that God made a promise. A promise that was fulfilled when the one who created the heavens and the earth - the one who could part the sea - the one who could cause nations to quake and mountains tremble; slipped in as a helpless child and the world knelt to kiss him on a starry night in Bethlehem.

"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior who is Christ the Lord!" That's the miracle of this season, that's the promise we embrace - that's the promise of Christmas!" It's the promise that continues to shine through the darkness of our world, that continues to shine in the hearts, the lives and the souls of all who embrace it, it is the promise of Emmanuel - the gift of God - to us, for us and with us...forever. Thanks be to God!

Merry Christmas

Pastor Mark