

## God's Promise of Christmas Christmas Eve 2017

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The Promise of Christmas relies on the historical accuracy of the evidence surrounding the birth of Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 9:6 For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.  
(CSB)

I. God went to great lengths to tell the world of **His plan** for salvation through Jesus Christ.

A. Christ's birth was **foretold** in the Old Testament

Genesis 3:15 - I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel. (CSB)

Isaiah 7:14 – Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: See, the virgin will conceive, have a son, and name him Immanuel.  
(CSB)

II. The eyewitness accounts of Jesus' life give some of the **greatest proof** for any single individual's existence.

2 Peter 1:16 – For we did not follow cleverly contrived myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ; instead, we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. (CSB)

Luke 1:1-3

Acts 2:22 – Fellow Israelites, listen to these words: This Jesus of Nazareth was a man attested to you by God with miracles, wonders, and signs that God did among you through him, just as you yourselves know. (CSB)

III. The manuscript evidence has and **continues to affirm** the historical account of Jesus' life.

### **Thought For The Week:**

If it is **true**, what will you **do**?

**Preparing for your Verse of the Year**

1. What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?
2. What is one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?
3. What is the most humanly impossible thing you will ask God to do this year?
4. What is the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family this year?
5. In which spiritual discipline do you most want to make progress this year, and what will you do about it?

6. What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?

7. What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?

8. For whose salvation will you pray most fervently this year?

9. What is the most important way you will, by God's grace, try to make this year different from last year?

10. What single thing that you plan to do this year will matter most in ten years? In eternity?

This resource is from Donald Whitney. Author of *Praying the Bible*.