

A Christmas Heart!

Deuteronomy 4:39

“Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other”

Prayer

- * A Christmas Prayer a Prayer of Declaration
- * We declare the Merry [Love, Joy, Peace] of Christmas [Christ Worship] – Oh Come let us Adore Him!

Take a moment and Adore Him!

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Acknowledge

Etymology: ac- (as in accord) + knowledge

Accord [To bring into agreement: To arrive at an agreement: To be consistent or in harmony: agreement, conformity: acted in accord with the company's policy: a formal reaching of agreement : compact, treaty: Harmony]

Acknowledge - Accord plus knowledge

Knowledge [knowledge applies to facts or ideas acquired by study, investigation, observation, or experience : learning applies to knowledge acquired especially through formal, often advanced, schooling: a book that demonstrates vast *learning*]

Note Accord plus Knowledge

Flow – Needs to be directed – or it will pool or run by – Now Ponder that

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* Acknowledge - *As in accord + knowledge*

Deuteronomy 4: 35-40

“35-38 You were shown all this so that you would know that God is, well, God. He's the only God there is. He's it. He made it possible for you to hear his voice out of Heaven to discipline you...

39-40 Know this well, then. Take it to heart right now: God is in Heaven above; God is on Earth below. He's the only God there is. Obediently live by his rules and commands which I'm giving you today so that you'll live well and your children after you—oh, you'll live a long time in the land that God, your God, is giving you”

Can we just for a moments this morning, put away Church agenda

* Can we just for a few moments this day, stand together and say, I mean say so, I mean speak out, ACKNOWLEDGE

Matthew 1: 18-24

“This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit.

19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"—which means, "God with us."

24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

25 But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus”

* The Birthing of the Presence of God

* The Birthing of Salvation – Salvation through Jesus!

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“Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other”

* Acknowledge that the Lord—He and He alone—is God

All of a sudden, standing before the people and preaching with fire in his heart, Moses is gripped with a deep sense of God's presence

* The very person of God—just who God is in all of His wonderful person and wonderful works—floods the heart of Moses

* He begins to wax eloquent and describe just who God is

You ever Wax Eloquently? – Simply just speak about the Lord with fire in your heart – with a passion so powerful that you just brag on you dad!

Deuteronomy 4:38 (KJV)

“38 To drive out nations from before thee greater and mightier than thou art, to bring thee in, to give thee their land for an inheritance, as it is this day”

* The Lord is the God who gives victory over all enemies and who guides His people to the promised land – guides us!

* God alone can give a victorious life to a person

No other being—on earth or in heaven, physical or spiritual—can empower man enough to conquer all the enemies of life, enemies such as...

* Divorce – Abuse - Abandonment

* Poverty – Accident - Emptiness

* Depression - Discouragement

* Sinful behavior

* Hopelessness

God alone has the power to conquer all the enemies of life

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* *Acknowledge* – The Accord plus Knowledge

And - *Take to heart*

Note the strong challenge and appeal of Moses

* Know this fact! Acknowledge it! Take it to heart!

* Keep it firmly in mind!

* It is the Lord Himself who is the Sovereign God, who rules and reigns over all that is in heaven above and on earth below.

Deuteronomy 4:39 (KJV)

“39 Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the Lord he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else”

* Hey, get this now – What a statement!

* KNOW THEREFORE THIS DAY!

* CONSIDER IT IN THINE HEART!

COME ON NOW!

* THE LORD HE IS GOD!

Now this is a MERRY CHRISTMAS HEART!

Deuteronomy 4:39

“Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other”

* Come on now somebody!

* Lets ACKNOWLEDGE – ONE ACCORD KNOWLEDGE right now that The LORD GOD is GOD IN HEAVEN ABOVE and ON THE EARTH BELOW! THERE IS NO OTHER!

Matthew 1:20-21 (KJV)

“But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins”

Jesus' birth necessitated a special revelation

*** Note the words, "while he thought on these things"**

*** Joseph did just what he should have done: he got alone with God to think and pray through the predicament**

Because of his Godly dependence and obedience, God met his need**God gave Joseph a special revelation****Deuteronomy 4:39**

“Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the LORD is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other”

Today we Acknowledge that the Lord is in this Place

Today we Acknowledge and TAKE TO HEART!

That Jesus is Salvation!

Today we truly have a Merry Christmas HEART!

Psalm 20:4

“May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed”