

**Christmas**  
**Good News in Troubling Times (Part 4)**  
**The Good News of Love**  
(Luke. 2:1-7)

**Introduction:** At Christmas time, we tend to focus our attention on the *infancy* of Christ. But the greater truth of Christmas is His deity. This baby who was born in the manger was God Himself in human form. Christmas is a celebration of the love that brought God to do this incredible act and become our Immanuel – God with us! Today we will be celebrating the candle of love, as we are reminded Christmas is about the celebration of the promise, power, and pinnacle of God’s love toward us.

**I. Christmas is the celebration of the promise of God’s love:**

1. The fact that God loves the whole world is a N.T. concept.
  2. This was a revolutionary idea that only sprang into theology through the birth and life of Jesus!
- A. God’s motivation toward people is love.** (Jn.3:16)
- B. God’s love is not limited to a few or one group of people, but to the whole world.**
1. The Bible says – God so loved the world... (i.e.) every man.
  2. Today God continues to extend the promise of His love to every person – through Jesus.

**II. Christmas is a celebration of the power of God’s love:**

Whenever the Bible gives teaching about true love, the center of love is the will, not the emotions.

**A. The expression of God’s love is found in His will –**

1. Love is certainly a very powerful “human” emotion.
2. God’s love is not emotional, or some uncontrollable feeling.

**B. The evidence of God’s love is found in His works –**

1. God’s love is so strong that all of human history is centered around this one event – (Rev. 13:8; 1 Pe. 1:19-20)

2. Before the foundation of earth, by His perfect will, had already determined to demonstrate the power of His love toward man (Rom.5:8; Eph. 1:1-4; Titus 1:2).

**III. Christmas is a celebration of the pinnacle of God’s love:**

**A. Never had history experienced a higher point – (Lk.2:6,7)**

1. The omnipotent creator of heaven and earth, God, had come to dwell among men.
2. The center point of God’s love (Jesus) now lay as a babe in a manger...

**B. Never had heaven experienced a lower point – (Phil 2:6-8)**

As Jesus said farewell for now...

**Conclusion:** At Christmas we have a tendency to focus a lot of attention on that baby in the manger, but the deeper truth is that this baby who was born in the manger was God Himself in human form. Making Christmas a celebration of the love that brought God to do this incredible act and become our Immanuel – God with us! This love of God is expressed to the one God loves most – YOU! And He loves us so much, He has promised to Come again so where He is, we may be also (Jn. 14:3)! (Even so, come Lord Jesus!)