

JESUS... FREELY GIVEN
Christmas... Free For All – Advent 1
November 29, 2009

1. Two Approaches To Christmas...

Σ It becomes _____ for some.

Luke 2:1-3 (GW) “At that time the **Emperor Augustus ordered a census of the Roman Empire.** ² This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ **All the people went to register in the cities where their ancestors had lived.**”

Σ It really offers a _____ for everyone.

Romans 3:23-24 (NCV) “**All have sinned and are not good enough for God's glory,** ²⁴ **and all need to be made right with God by His grace, which is a free gift. They need to be made free from sin through Jesus Christ.**”

Isaiah 59:2 (TLB) “**The trouble is that your sins have cut you off from God.**”

Romans 5:8 (NIV) “**But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**”

Ephesians 2:8 (NIV) “**For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God**”

2. Christmas Can Turn _____ To _____.

Luke 1:5-7 (NIV) “**In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah... his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron.** ⁶ **Both of them were upright in the sight of God...** ⁷ **But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years.**”

When Grace Is Freely Given...

Σ It comes as we go about our _____.

Luke 1:8-9 (NIV) “**Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God,** ⁹ **he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense.**”

Σ It comes as we _____.

Luke 1:10-12 (NIV) “**And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.** ¹² **When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear.**”

Σ It comes as answered _____.

Luke 1:13-15 (NIV) “**But the angel said to him: ‘Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John.** ¹⁴ **He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth,** ¹⁵ **for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth.’**”

Σ It comes as a revelation of God's _____.

Luke 1:16-17 (NIV) “**Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God.** ¹⁷ **And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous--to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.**”

Malachi 4:6b (NIV) “**...Or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.**”

Luke 1:25 (NIV) “**‘The Lord has done this for me,’ she said. ‘In these days He has shown His favor and taken away my disgrace among the people.’**”

Ephesians 1:6 (TEV) “**Let us praise God for His glorious grace, for the free gift He gave us in His dear Son!**”