



# Of Seeds and Flowers

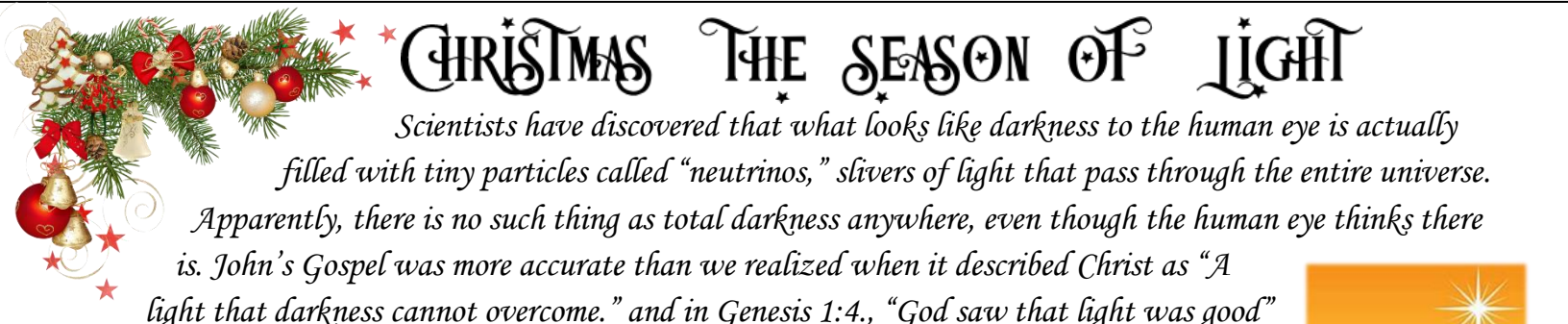


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## CHRISTMAS THE SEASON OF LIGHT

Scientists have discovered that what looks like darkness to the human eye is actually filled with tiny particles called “neutrinos,” slivers of light that pass through the entire universe.

Apparently, there is no such thing as total darkness anywhere, even though the human eye thinks there is. John’s Gospel was more accurate than we realized when it described Christ as “A light that darkness cannot overcome.” and in Genesis 1:4., “God saw that light was good”



Remember, light is not so much what you see directly as that by which you see everything else. That is why in John’s Gospel Jesus makes the almost boastful statement, “I am the light of the world 8:12. Indeed, **JESUS IS THE LIGHT** by which we see and understand everything else, if we can get our ego out of the way. **The world around us is both the HIDING PLACE AND THE REVELATION OF GOD.** HOLD ON TO THAT! - “The Universal Christ” – Richard Rohr

“Whatever came to be in him, found life, life for the **LIGHT OF MEN**. The **LIGHT** shines on in darkness, a **LIGHT THAT DARKNESS CANNOT OVERCOME**” (John 1:4-5) Ironical, isn’t it? There is no pure darkness.

Then God said, “Let there be **LIGHT**,” and there was **LIGHT**. God saw how good the **LIGHT WAS**.” (Genesis 1)

“I am the light of the world. **NO FOLLOWER** of mine shall ever walk in darkness; no, he shall possess the **LIGHT OF LIFE**.” (John. 8:12) Why are we always creating **SUBSTITUTES, IDOLS FOR GOD?**

“Too often we are like blind people touching the side of an elephant describing the tiny portion we feel with all of the emotion and conviction we can muster up.” – Richard Rohr



“Here, then, is the message we have heard from Jesus and announce to you: that **GOD IS LIGHT**: in **HIM** there is no darkness,” (1 John 1:5)



“You are the **light** of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Men do not light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket. They set it on a stand where it gives **light** to all in the house. In the same way **your light** must shine before men so that they may see goodness in your acts and **give praise to your heavenly Father**.” (Matthew 5:13) **LIGHT, light EVERYWHERE!!!**



It began with the simple cry of a baby...And grew into a shout of good news that echoed through the ages... **Christ is born!**

“The Incarnation is like a dagger thrust into the sheath of human history.”  
- Hoskyns

- 75 YEARS AGO!! A CHRISTMAS PRAYER The following Christmas prayer was delivered by a U. S. Senate Chaplain, Peter Marshall on Dec. 19, 1947 in the U. S. Senate, addressed to a victorious nation recovering from World War II. This prayer could have been prayed yesterday!



*"We thank thee, O God, for the return of the wondrous spell of this Christmas season that brings its own sweet joy into our jaded and troubled hearts.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that we should celebrate without understanding what we celebrate, or, like our counterparts so long ago, fail to see the star or to hear the song of glorious promise.*

*As our hearts yield to the spirit of Christmas, may we discover that it is Thy Holy Spirit who comes-not a sentiment but a power- to remind us of the only way by which there may be peace on earth and good will among men.*

*May we not spend Christmas, but keep it, that we may be kept in its hope, through Him who emptied Himself in coming to us that we might be filled with peace and joy in returning to God. Amen".*



**"THERE ARE ONLY TWO WAYS  
TO LIVE YOUR LIFE.  
ONE IS AS THOUGH  
NOTHING IS A MIRACLE.  
THE OTHER IS AS THOUGH  
EVERYTHING IS A MIRACLE"  
-ALBERT EINSTEIN-**

If you look for me at Christmas,  
You won't need a special star.  
I'm no longer just in Bethlehem,  
**I'm right there where you are.**  
You may not be aware of Me,  
Amid the celebrations.  
You'll have to look beyond the stores,  
And all the decorations.  
**But if you take a moment,  
From your list of things to do,  
And listen to your heart, you'll find  
I'm waiting there for you.**  
You're the one I want to be with,  
**You're the reason that I came.**  
And you'll find Me in the stillness,  
As I'm whispering your name.

love,  
*Jesus*

**"The hint half  
guessed, the gift  
half understood,  
is Incarnation "  
T. S. Eliot**



Are you  
PART OF THE  
**INN CROWD**  
or are you one  
OF THE **STABLE**  
**FEW?**

What can I give Him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man  
I would do my part;  
Yet what I can, I give Him -  
Give my heart.

He who has  
not Christmas  
in his heart  
will never  
find it  
under a tree.  
~Roy L. Smith

**THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE**  
1. You believe in Santa Claus  
2. You don't believe in Santa Claus  
3. You are Santa Claus  
4. You look like Santa Claus



*"Lord, what made you so small?"* And St. Bernard of Clairvaux's ecstatic response was, *"It was love!"*

## *It began with the simple cry of a baby.*

Jesus was an unplanned pregnancy! Mary was an unwed mother! I wonder what Planned UN-PARENTHOOD of Nazareth would have encouraged?



Mary says: "I present Jesus to you this Christmas morning: He is my Son and He is the Son of God! He is the Morning Star; the Prince of Peace, the gift of the Father. Let your glance meet with his, and tell me if he is a beautiful baby, an adorable little One? You can kiss Him and touch his little heart, if you want to, and let him reach out and touch you."

"May love and peace be the first to lift the latch on your door and the Christ Child be guided to your home by the light of your heart!"

### Popular songs and the year they were written

The First Noel, 13<sup>th</sup> Century

Joy to the World, 1719

Hark The Herald Angels Sing, 1739

Adeste Fideles, 1743

O Come All Ye Faithful. 1743

God Rest Ye Merry gentlemen, 1770

Silent Night, 1816-1818

It Came Upon the midnight Clear, 1849

O Holy Night, 1847

Angels We Have Heard on High, 1862

WHY DO YOU THINK, CHRISTMAS SONGS/HYMNS LIKE THESE, ARE NO LONGER BEING WRITTEN today?

'To His own He came yet His own did not accept Him. Any, any one, who did accept Him He EMPOWERED to become CHILDREN OF GOD. (John 1: 12)

"Every time I go out among people, I come back less a person." - Thomas a Kempis, 15<sup>th</sup> Cent.

"Our citizenship is in Heaven."  
(Philippians 3:20)

"We all eventually discover that our hearts and souls will not be fed at the table of self-seeking."  
- Richard Rohr "The Divine Dance"



"We are all united to God but only some of us know it. Most people doubt it or deny it. OUR EGO wants to be self-made, not OTHER MADE. Ever since, "**Let there be light**", in Genesis, we are stuck with creation and a Creator which, in reality, essentially, means **TO BE DEPENDENT** IS OUR GLORY. BUT HOW OUR PRIDE AND EGO HATE THIS? "**Lead me forth from prison, O Lord, that I may give thanks and praise to your name.**" Psalm 142. Are you in prison? **HOW?** "**The chief thing that separates us from God is the THOUGHT that we are separated from Him.**" Eckhardt. We must impart the Gospel message as a reality anyone can live. We must make goodness credible and possible. TRUTH and LOVE are meant to work together. They are not at war with each other. Daily, this is becoming more and more outdated and rejected. We live in a failing culture!!



Why wish upon a star when you can pray to the One who created it??



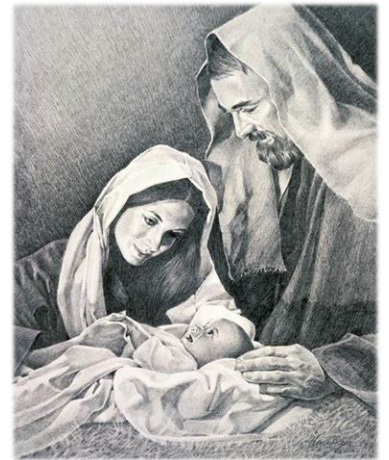
Teresa Neumann, German Mystic; from 1926 until her death in 1962 she never slept or drank any liquids or ate any food. Hitler was afraid of her and withdrew her food rationing card. Thousands of American GIs visited her before returning home after WW II. It is impressive how God chooses and anoints special people in all ages to confront people and the laws of nature, and to say simply "I STILL AM IN CONTROL." Teresa

Neumann lived on the Eucharist alone, which she received daily. -a back-door proof of the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.



*Mary's Field is now on YouTube. Everyday a short video will be uploaded to help nourish your heart and strengthen your spirit during these difficult times. Type "YouTube Mary's Field" into the Bing.com search engine or "Mary's Field" into the Youtube.com search to find our channel.*

*God does not love you because you are good. God loves you because God is good.*



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