

The Nativity of the Lord 2020

My beloved brothers and sisters, have you ever noticed that around both Christmas and Easter, which are the two greatest celebrations in the Christian world, contemporary pundits always want to dismiss the reality of Jesus Christ to a mythical story, like Harry Potter, or simply dismiss Jesus as a spiritual leader whose teachings form the basis of the Christian religion. They do so, because if Jesus is Who He claims to be, then everything in our lives must change, and the whole of human history must revolve around Him, for He is God made flesh, and our Savior, The Way, The Truth and The Life, and there is no other!

In the Gospel of John, which is the Gospel for Christmas Day, we are told: “In the Beginning was the Word...and the Word became Flesh...” The Greek is utterly extraordinary: It is the Logos, which already was before anything else existed, and then became flesh, and made His dwelling among us. In the Greek Philosophy at the time in which the Gospels were written: Logos was the very principal of all life- the principal behind the existence of everything in the Universe! In other words: God the Creator!

In this short section of the Gospel is the greatest of revelations to mankind! Although we are focused on the birth of a tiny boy child in a touching story, we lose the point of the Gospel if we do not understand what St. John is teaching us. The Logos of God is the eternal God breathed eternally from the Father, who breaths out the Spirit of God who creates all that exists. Now, the Father breathes His Divine Word who existed from all eternity, into time and space, and the Word becomes: Sarx, meaning: flesh and blood. The God whom no one has seen, has now been made visible to us, as Emmanuel, the God who is visible in Jesus Christ and is dwelling amongst us. Jesus is new way that God lives with His people!

Pope Benedict asks us the question in his book: Jesus of Nazareth; “what did Jesus actually bring? We still have wars. We still get sick. People still suffer. We still die. What did Jesus, the Word made flesh bring?” He answers: Jesus brings us God! The Message of Christmas is not a cute little baby in a manger. It is so much more profound. It is the Gospel message that Jesus is freedom and victory

for those who once had no hope. Don't be distracted by the glitter and the lights; be focused on the Almighty God of infinite humility who becomes a human being so that He can raise us to the level of His Divinity!

God is no longer some remote figure who began all of creation with the Big Bang. God is infinite love, who created all that exist out of infinite love, and created you and me for a communion of infinite Love in His very reality. That is the message of Christmas!