## Friday, December 25, 1959

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## THE NEW BERN MIRROR, NEW BERN, N. C.

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## Why Do We Have Christmas?

It is now the season of Christmas, 1,959 years since the Prince of Peace was born in the Fulfillment of Prophecy, to reject a crown of gold and life of splendor for 33 dedicated years and a crown of thorns.

Because He came as a leader and teacher of men, there were those who devoted unceasing efforts to degrade and destroy Him. Yet, in quiet, God-like manner, 'He walked in the valley of men, teaching the fundamental principles of life and truth by both parable and example.

Because He lifted the eyes of mankind above the meaningless values of worldly power and earthly riches, He sinned against plunder-ers and tyrants, and for this He was crucified.

Because He called out in pain for the forgiveness of those who had tortured Him and nailed His body to a cross between two thieves, He set the highest example of the Golden Rule.

Because of His example and sacrifice, the tyrants and plunderers who seek to conquer and enslave are eventually set aside and relegated to oblivion . . . while the lessons of His Divine teachings remain forever, showing the way toward peace on earth, good will to men.



Christmas Greetings! Like the Wise Men of old, may you find treasures of the heart and the spirit this Noell

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## THOUGHTS ON CHRISTMAS AND YOU

There is a very personal note in the Christmas message which is frequently missed by many. The birth of Jesus is not simply an interesting fact of history wholly unrelated to your personal life ... but rather it has a direct bearing upon it. When the angels announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds, the personal importance of his coming was emphasized. They said, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring YOU good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto YOU is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which

is Christ the Lord (Luke 2:10,11).

mands a personal response. The Saviour .who was born was God's gift to YOU. And He wants you to receive that gift. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."-John 3:16.

To réceive the gift of God by faith YOU must believe that Christ actually was born to be YOUR Saviour. You should trust Him because He DIED for YOUR sins. You should trust Him because He lives, having risen from the dead. -Captain Wm. H. Abernethy of The Salvation Army.

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It is said that the Christmas spirit led St. Francis to pray that "I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved, as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

Christmas is a spirit-lifting season . . . marking the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem . . . and as such it promises a golden blessing for all mankind.



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