

***Message:*** When Christmas Collides With Disappointment

***Scripture:*** Selected Texts

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Disappointment is the feeling which results from not experiencing what is hoped for and expected.

Disappointment can destroy your Christmas or, on the other hand, a proper understanding of Christmas can destroy your disappointment.

1. BIGGER
2. BETTER
3. LESSER

1. For Christians, there is always a BIGGER story.

A proper understanding of Christmas reminds believers that in spite of relational and circumstantial disappointments, there is always a bigger story behind the lesser story.

- 1) The lesser story = our disappointments
- 2) The bigger story = God's best for us

Relational and circumstantial disappointments cripple us when we believe that the lesser story is the only story.

**John 1:1, 14 (NASB)**

<sup>1</sup> *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

<sup>14</sup> *And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

**John 14:6a**

<sup>6</sup> *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; ....*

Because of Christmas, truth collides with our disappointments creating a new story which is always best for us.

2. The bigger story is always the BETTER story.

### **Matthew 1:20-21**

<sup>20</sup> *But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>21</sup> *"She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."*

### **Luke 2:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> *Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.*

<sup>2</sup> *This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.*

<sup>3</sup> *And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.*

<sup>4</sup> *Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,*

<sup>5</sup> *in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.*

<sup>6</sup> *While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.*

<sup>7</sup> *And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.*

3. God understands the pain of the LESSER story.