

Who Is Jesus? Recognizing Him

Isaiah 42:20 ❖ John 1:10-13

"In the Christian story God descends to reascend. He comes down, down from the heights of absolute being into time and space, down into humanity. But He goes down to come up again and bring the whole ruined world up with Him. One has the picture of a strong man stooping lower and lower to get himself underneath some great complicated burden. He must stoop in order to lift, he must almost disappear under the load before he incredibly straightens his back and marches off with the whole mass swaying on his shoulders."

("Miracles," C. S. Lewis)

He Descended

Though, of course, we don't literally believe in a _____-tier universe, it is helpful to use that language in a _____ sense.

Jesus left _____ to enter our _____ to save us from _____.

"He was in the _____, and though the world was made through Him, the world did not _____ Him" (John 1:10).

Burden Carrier

"Yet to all who _____ Him, to those who _____ in His name, He gave the right to become _____ of God" (John 1:12).

"Received Him" implies not merely _____ agreement with some facts about Jesus, but also _____ Him into your life and _____ to His lordship.

One of the major responsibilities of parents is to carry the _____ our children are not _____ capable of carrying themselves.

The burden we will never be able to _____ by ourselves is the weight of our _____.

"Your hands, so tiny, so tender - clutched tonight in an infant's _____. They aren't destined to hold a _____ nor wave from a palace balcony. They are reserved instead for a Roman spike that will _____ them to a cross." ("God Came Near," Max Lucado, 35)

Recognizing Jesus

"You have seen many things, but have paid no _____; your ears are open, but you hear _____" (Isaiah 42:20).

Even during the Christmas season, there are many who fail to _____ Jesus.

Are we paying attention to the things the Lord is always doing?!

- 1) _____ us to Himself
- 2) _____ us
- 3) _____ our sins
- 4) _____ second chances
- 5) _____ hearts
- 6) _____ peace
- 7) _____ us in the right direction

Takeaway

Is Jesus carrying your burdens tonight?

My daughter-in-law made an ornament that is hanging on our Christmas tree at home. On it is our grandson Knox's little _____ - so small, so precious. Jesus' hands were once that small, that precious. Yet they were destined to be _____ to a _____, so that Jesus might carry your _____ and mine.

This Christmas Eve, please don't fail to _____ that Jesus was _____ for one reason - so He would one day be _____ for our salvation.