

WORD OF THE DAY

Merry Christmas



WORD OF THE DAY ([Matthew 2:1](#))

"Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem."

-KJV

Seeing a Merry Christmas



'Tis the Christmas Season, and it is the season to be merry, but all was not merry when Jesus was born. Joseph was dealing with explaining an unplanned pregnancy to family and friends, Mary was forced to give birth in an animal manger, and worst of all, Jesus was on Herod's most wanted list.

Due to fear of losing his throne to the birth of the Jewish Messiah, Herod ordered thousands of babies to be murdered so that he would kill the Messiah before he became a man. With the shame of having a baby out of wedlock, the harsh conditions of the pregnancy, and having their baby hunted by Herod, was there a "Merry Christmas" to be seen for Mary and Joseph?

Yes there was. Although Mary and Joseph had much going on, there was still a Merry Christmas to be seen. They were protected amid the journey by angels and visited by wise men with gifts. And although there was no room in the inn, God provided a safe place of dwelling far away from Herod's military men who sought to kill Jesus.

Today, many of the same things that happened in the days of baby Jesus are still here. Shame, harsh conditions in the world, and the loss of life on a massive scale still continues. Yet God continues to greet us graciously with the love and comfort of Jesus (through the Holy Spirit) during our situations, allowing each day to be truly Merry.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*Focus on what God is doing, not what the devil is doing, and in doing so, you will **see** a Merry Christmas.*

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Dear God, sometimes it is hard to be merry, happy, joyful and filled with glee. Yet, when I think of that fact that you sent us the best gift ever, I am reminded that there is always a reason to be merry each and every day if only I look at what you are doing. In Jesus name I pray, amen.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas, Your brother in Christ, WNL

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