

Celebrate Nativity!

A welcome addition to the Christmas season this year comes on December 1st, when The Nativity Story hits theaters everywhere.

Many of us are concerned about two trends regarding Christmas:

- * The over-commercializing of Christmas
- * The de-emphasis of the true meaning of Christmas, that Jesus is the reason for the season!

The Nativity Story has the potential to do for Christmas what The Passion did for Easter: have people talking around the water cooler at work and the lockers at school about Jesus!

I watched several of the advance clips of the movie on the Internet. Christian, I believe you'll want to go see this movie. As you leave the theatre don't forget to say a prayer like this: "Thank you Jesus for leaving Heaven's glory and coming to earth to save me!"

I thought it was neat when I looked up the word nativity in the dictionary. It had nativity with a little 'n' defined as: 'the coming into life or the world; birth.' But then it had Nativity with a big 'N' defined as: 'the birth of Jesus.'

Folks, the Nativity Story is the record of a birth unlike any other birth the world has ever experienced! John 1:14 in the Christian Standard Bible reads:

“the Word became flesh and took up residence among us.”

John 1 makes clear that the Word is none other than Jesus Christ. It also identifies Him as the God who created all things. And in verse 14 it tells us that all people who receive Jesus become children of God!

Think of it: God took up residence among us so that we could have residence with Him eternally! We can have that eternal life if we'll receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior!

Of course to make that salvation possible this same Jesus lovingly died in our place on the cross! We can't really talk about the cradle without talking about the cross, can we?

But the story doesn't end there- Those who understand why Jesus lay in the cradle and died on a cross understand that the resurrected Jesus now wears the crown as the King of Kings! This Christmas let's celebrate THE Nativity!

Danny Campbell <><