



Letter from the President



Dr. Bill Jones

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6, KJV).

The Best Christmas List

December 2008

Dear friends of CIU,

“And His name shall be...” The way in which Isaiah exalts the name of Jesus truly encourages me! Whether read silently, recited aloud or put to music, his words magnify our Savior, whose goodness and grace have given us much to celebrate.

Though many wish to remove the name of Christ from Christmas, you and I can actually cause His name to increase rather than decrease. Most people recognize names like “Redeemer” and “Lord,” but God has ascribed many other names and titles to Himself so people may fully grasp the extent of His love and interest in their lives. As others begin to develop expectant faith in His many descriptive names, they will experience faith, hope and joy. They will want to know more about this Saving Gift who no longer lies in the manger—or the grave!

In our trials, Christ walks beside us as the Wonderful Counselor (Isaiah 9:6). When we thirst, He refreshes us as our Fountain of Living Water (Jeremiah 2:13; John 7:37-38). And when we are sick, He comforts as the Sun of Righteousness with healing in His wings (Malachi 4:2). These represent just a few of the ways the Lord’s name changes the lives of people.

Almost weekly, I carve out time to meet with businessmen, many of whom will hear for the first time the love and forgiveness Jesus offers. I have had the privilege many times of

kneeling on the floor with them and listening as they pray to receive Christ as their Savior. It brings me great joy to watch as the name of the King of Kings and Lord of Lords becomes real and personal to them.

If you have spent time wondering what gifts to give this Christmas, consider following the biblical example of Isaiah and others by sharing with your family and friends the names of Christ that have been especially meaningful to you. When we help someone unwrap a deeper understanding of the finished work of Christ, we give the greatest gift of all!

This Christmas you will find my Christmas gift to you on the back of this letter. I hope these wonderful, uplifting Old Testament references to our Lord will inspire you! I encourage you to keep them handy and meditate upon them—and share them with others! Like a new-fallen Christmas snow, let them blanket the lives of the people around you. As you continue to know Christ and make His name known, many will have perfect peace and a steadfast trust in the faithful, everlasting Rock (Isaiah 26:3-4).

Psalm 91:14,

William H. Jones
President

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God is...

The Lord Who Provides, God Most High, the Fear of Isaac (*Genesis*)
The Passover Lamb, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (*Exodus*)
Our Great High Priest (*Leviticus*)
The Pillar of Cloud by Day and Pillar of Fire by Night (*Numbers*)
Our Refuge (*Deuteronomy*)
Our Faithful One (*Joshua*)
The God of the Covenant (*Judges*)
Our Kinsman Redeemer (*Ruth*)
The Trusted Prophet (*1st and 2nd Samuel*)
Our Reigning King (*Kings and Chronicles*)
God of Heaven (*Ezra*)
The Rebuilder (*Nehemiah*)
The Protector, Lord of All Causality, Lord of Troubled Times (*Esther*)
Our Redeemer (*Job*)
Our Shepherd (*Psalms*)
Our Wisdom (*Proverbs and Ecclesiastes*)
The Beautiful Bridegroom (*Song of Solomon*)
The Suffering Servant, the Reigning King, Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Root of Jesse (*Isaiah*)
The Righteous Branch, the Lord Our Righteousness (*Jeremiah*)
God the Righteous Judge (*Lamentations*)
The Lord of Glory, the Good Shepherd, the Lord who is there (*Ezekiel*)
Son of Man (*Daniel*)
The Faithful Husband (*Hosea*)
The One who Baptizes with the Holy Spirit and with Fire (*Joel*)
The God of Justice (*Amos*)
Our Savior (*Obadiah*)
The Great Foreign Missionary (*Jonah*)
King of Bethlehem (*Micah*)
The Avenger of God's Chosen (*Nahum*)
God the Faith-Rewarding, God the Trustworthy (*Habakkuk*)
The LORD Mighty to Save (*Zephaniah*)
The Restorer of Our Lost Heritage (*Haggai*)
Our Fountain, the Coming King, the Pierced One (*Zechariah*)
The Sun of Righteousness with Healing in His Wings (*Malachi*)

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