

Spend some extended time in prayer today. First sit quietly before God for a few minutes and focus on His amazing character. As you continue in prayer thank God for His love for you. Revel in the fact this God, who created everything with a word, loves you.

Next talk to God about the struggles you are facing. Ask Him to calm you and to be your strength.

Please pray for tonight's concerts. Pray that our church will be welcoming and that many people will meet Jesus.

## Saturday

Please read Matthew 1:18-25. We've spent several weeks now focusing on who this baby, Jesus, really was. How does all that study impact your reading of the Christmas story?

Please pray for the Christmas concerts that are continuing this weekend. Please pray that our church will be a beacon of truth and light this Christmas season. And invite your friends!

## WEEK 3 Reigniting Your Christmas Wonder

# heaven & nature

René Schlaepfer • December 12 & 13, 2009

*"The glory of the incarnation is that it presents to our adoring gaze not a humanized God or a deified man, but a true Godman — one who is all that God is and at the same time all that man is: one on whose almighty arm we can rest and to whose human sympathy we can appeal.*

Benjamin B. Warfield

*"Filling the world, he lies in a manger!"* Augustine

*"The mystery of the humanity of Christ, that he sunk himself into our flesh, is beyond all human understanding."* Martin Luther

*"To the human mind, there is something almost illogical in the assertion that God became a man. It is like speaking about a square circle. Yet this is what Christmas says — and we take refuge from our bewilderment, not in explanation but in adoration."* Ralph P. Martin

**This week's passage: Hebrews 1:1-3**

## Three truths to help reignite your Christmas wonder

### Jesus is...

#### 1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

*"In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son. . ."* Hebrews 1:1-2a

*"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being. . ."* Hebrews 1:3a

#### 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

*" . . . and through whom he made the universe."* Hebrews 1:2b

*"By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth."* Psalm 33:6

#### 3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

*"After he had provided purification for sins, he **sat down** at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven."* Hebrews 1:3b

*"Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered **for all time one sacrifice** for sins, he **sat down** at the right hand of God."* Hebrews 10:11-12

**I can stop \_\_\_\_\_ myself;  
someone else was already \_\_\_\_\_ for me.**

## So what?

“You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them... The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, ‘I am trembling with fear.’” *Hebrews 12:18–19,21*

“But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly... to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant...” *Hebrews 12:22,24a*

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe...” *Hebrews 12:28*

## The bottom line:

Be \_\_\_\_\_ !

# Daily Meditations

## Monday

Please read Hebrews 1:1–3. What did you learn about this passage in last weekend’s sermon?

What point impacted you the most and why?

How would you like to see these verses reignite your Christmas wonder?

*Thank God today for the opportunity to study the Bible. Thank Him for amazing gift of Jesus that we are celebrating during this season. Pray that as you study the Bible this week you’ll find your Christmas wonder growing.*

## Tuesday

Please read John 10: 25–31, 14:8–10 & Colossians 1:15. Also, please reread Hebrews 1:1–3. How do these verses demonstrate the truth that Jesus is the revealer of God?

As you think about Jesus’ time here on earth. What are three things that Jesus reveals to you about who God is?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

*Thank God today for opportunity to learn about who He is through His Son Jesus. Pray that you will grow in your understanding of God’s character this Christmas season. Lay your stresses at the feet of God and ask for His strength and wisdom for each step.*

## Wednesday

Please read Psalm 33:6 & Hebrews 1:2. What do these passages tell about God’s creative power?

How can focusing on God’s creative power impact your Christmas wonder?

Be on the lookout today for five things that God created that can build your sense of Christmas wonder.

*Thank God today for beauty that He has placed all around you. Pray that you’ll be an encouragement to those you encounter today. Pray for the peace to slow down and enjoy God’s creative power this week.*

## Thursday

Please read Hebrews 1:3 & 10:11-12. Having immersed ourselves in the awesomeness of God only makes reading about His love and forgiveness all the more amazing! What do these passages tell you about Jesus’ sacrifice for your sins?

In what area of your life are you struggling with sin right now? In what area are you struggling with feeling forgiven?

How does the phrase “offered for all time one sacrifice for sins...” help you in those struggles?

*Thank God today for the forgiveness of sins that you have through Jesus. Please pray for the first Christmas concert tonight. Pray for the health of all who participate, and most importantly that all we do will point people to Jesus!*

## Friday

Please read Hebrews 12:18–28. This passage can be overwhelming to read. It gives a glimpse of God’s purpose and power. How does this passage help you get “blown away” by who Jesus is?



“But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.”  
*Hebrews 1:2a (NIV)*