TIS THE SEASON TO BE HOLY

Heavenly host praising God and saying “Glory to God in the highest”; shepherds understanding the language of the angels; a baby being born in a stable and laid in a manger who was Lord over all the earth; these are not just wonders of earth but very holy happenings willed by God. These things and others make up the reason for the season. This season is a special time when we should focus on holiness.

We should be holy because of Jesus conception. He was conceived of the Holy Ghost. Jesus knew that his true father was God. He taught us to say “Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.” Because of Jesus teaching we can truly recognize God as “Father, God.”

We should be holy because of his mother who said “be it unto me according to thy word.” Luke 1:38. If we would live our lives in such honest submission as Mary we would be much more holy than we are. Lord, help us to live out holiness and not be afraid of the consequences. We should live obediently unto God whether people speak good or bad about us. Our main focus must be to please God.

“And Joseph…did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him.” Much can be learned about holiness by observing the few accounts the Bible gives us about Joseph, Mary’s husband. He thought before he acted. He was willing to trust God in his life, his marriage, and his family. Much of the things we know about Joseph involved traveling to Bethlehem, to Egypt, to Nazareth, and to Jerusalem. As we read about Joseph he doesn’t sound like a traveling man but it is clear that he would do what God said for him to do when God wanted him to do it. We should do likewise.

Amid all the advertising, the sparkle and bells of Christmas, do not forget that there was no sparkle, glitz, or glamour at that little stable long ago but there was a special holiness that totally saturated that place. May it fill our hearts our homes and our worship places this Christmas.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram