

**12/24/2023 - Speaker: Al Schaap
Christmas Through The Eyes of...Jesus!!!**

Seeing Christmas through the eyes of Jesus...

..._____ Christmas

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made: without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:1-5)

Wars

Competing ideologies

Political fighting

Disorganization

Family fighting even during (especially during) the holidays

Competition

Moral haze

..._____ Christmas

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. (Luke 2:1-7)

..._____ Christmas...

The Son is the image of the invisible God, The Firstborn over all creation. For in Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together...in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form.... (Colossians 1:15-17, 2:9)

From Chaos.....to Christ!
From wars.....to shalom/community/unity/rescue
From competing ideologies.....to truth (absolute, not relative)
From political fighting.....to being not only of this world
From disorganization.....to God's order
From family fighting.....to shalom in families & THE Family
From competition.....to humility/contentment/selflessness
From moral haze.....to truth in love/holiness/righteousness

And, friend, His Eyes see _____!!!

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on His shoulders.
And He will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of His government and peace
there will be no end. (Isaiah 9:6-7a)*

Key: Before; At; This; (your name)