"GOD SENT CHRISTMAS"

GALATIANS 4:4



- FOR MANY PEOPLE GOD HAS BEEN LOST TO HISTORY AND MYSTERY
- ITS ONE MORE REASON WHY CHRIST CAME AND WHY WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS
 - WE CAN'T SEE AND DON'T LOOK FOR GOD
 - GOD IS SELF-REVEALING
 - GOD IS A SENDING GOD

- GALATIANS 4:4 "BUT WHEN THE FULLNESS OF THE TIME CAME, GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON, BORN OF A WOMAN, BORN UNDER THE LAW"
- "WHEN THE TIME HAD FULLY COME, GOD SENT HIS SON" TELLING US-
- 1. GOD REVEALS HIMSELF ON HIS SCHEDULE, IN HIS WAY.

THERE WERE MANY VITAL THINGS THAT WERE IN PLACE WHEN CHRIST WAS BORN.

WE WANT GOD TO SHOW HIMSELF NOW

HE WILL REVEAL HIMSELF AS HE SEES FIT WHEN THINGS ARE

READY BECAUSE HE DIRECTS IT ALL

2) GOD REVEALS HIMSELF BECAUSE ITS PART OF HIS NATURE TO DO SO.

AN OBJECT REVEALS SOMETHING ABOUT ITS CREATOR, SO DOES THE WORLD REVEAL THINGS ABOUT GOD.

IN GENERAL TERMS, GOD HAS REVEALED HIMSELF-THROUGH THE CONSTITUTION OF MAN THROUGH CREATION

- SPECIFICALLY, GOD REVEALS HIMSELF
 - THROUGH SCRITTURE
 - THROUGH SENDING

- 3) GOD REVEALS HIMSELF BECAUSE OF THE GREAT CHASM PRODUCED BY MY SIN.
- WITHOUT HIM REVEALING HIMSELF, WE HAVE NO HOPE TO KNOW HIM.
- GOD'S COMPLEXITY, MY SMALLNESS AND SINFULNESS ALL MEAN THAT GOD MUST SHOW HIMSELF TO ME.



- BIBLE USES SEND/SENT MORE THAN 1000 TIMES, MORE OFTEN ABOUT GOD.
- GOD SENDS PEOPLE WITH HIS WORD SO THAT OTHERS WILL KNOW HIM.
- ULTIMATELY, FINALLY, GOD SENT HIS SON WRAPPED IN OUR TATTERED, BRUISED, AND BROKEN FLESH, SO THAT WE COULD KNOW HIM!
- THIS IS ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS!

- John 3:17 "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."
- John 3:34 "For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God; for He gives the Spirit without measure."
- John 5:23 "So that all will honor the Son even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him."
- John 5:30 "I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me."
- John 5:36-37 "But the testimony which I have is greater than the testimony of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me. "And the Father who sent Me, He has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form.

- LIKE GOD SENT THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS, GOD SENT JESUS TO TELL US ABOUT...
 - JUDGMENT AND SIN
 - HOLY LIVING
 - BLESSING THE EARTH
 - FAITH
 - POWER
 - GOD WITH US.
 - SALVATION

- GOD IS STILL A SENDING GOD!!
- JOHN 20:21, SO JESUS SAID TO THEM AGAIN, "PEACE BE WITH YOU; AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, I ALSO SEND YOU."
- JOHN 17:18, AS YOU SENT ME INTO THE WORLD, I ALSO HAVE SENT THEM INTO THE WORLD.
- Luke 10:3, Go; Behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves
- ACTS 13:3, THEN, WHEN THEY HAD FASTED AND PRAYED AND LAID THEIR HANDS ON THEM, THEY SENT THEM AWAY.
- ROMANS 10:14-15 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news of goodthings!"

- GOD SENT HIS SON AND HE'S SENDING US AND WE ARE TO BE SENDERS.
- Acts 26:15-18 And I said, 'Who are You, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. 'But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to appoint you a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you; rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

- THE BIBLE SAYS PEOPLE ARE BLIND UNTIL GOD GIVES THEM SIGHT; WHAT ARE WE TO DO?
- GOD SENDS US TO OPEN THEIR EYES
 WITH THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS
- GOD OPENS BLIND EYES BY THE PREACHING AND TELLING OF THE GOSPEL

• HE IS STILL SENDING

WILL YOU GO?

• WILL YOU HELP US SEND?



DOMENICO FETI'S - ECCE HOMO

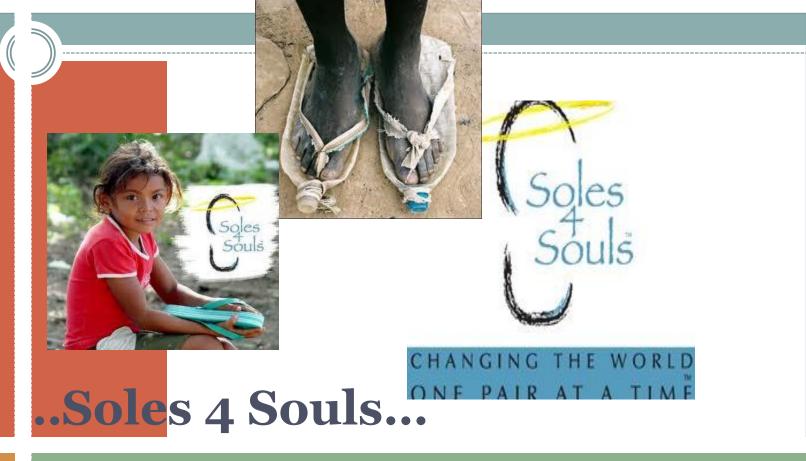




 PRAISE GOD FOR CHRISTMAS AND FOR GOD REVEALING HIMSELF TO YOU!

• ASK HIM TO USE YOU TO OPEN THE EYES OF OTHERS.





Now- Dec 19th

The charity distributes shoes to people in need. Since 2005, Soles4souls has given away nearly 12 million pairs of new and gently worn shoes. We will be collecting shoes to give away in November and December. Deliver them to the Soles4Souls box by the resource center on Sunday.

Uganda Meeting

- TODAY!
- 9er's Restaurant
- After Service
- We are planning a trip to Africa next year! If you are interested in going, make plans to be with us for this important meeting. See you there!

Family Christmas Service

- December 19th NEXT SUNDAY!
 5PM
- @ The Hilton Garden Inn
- Make plans to be with us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior!



Sweet Swap:

When: December 16th

Time: 7:00

Where: the Greatwood Recreation

Center. Ladies come share your

favorite recipes at our annual sweet

swap! See bulletin for details. RSVP to

Mindi Sanders at jmjj@att.net.

African Jewelry Available through December! Purchase them today at the Woman's Ministry Table. 100% of the proceeds go to pastor Henry's church in Uganda.

Adopt a College Student: Go to Woman's Ministry Table or See bulletins for details.

Retirement Home Ministry

Sunday / December 19th / 2PM At The Greatwood Retirement and Assisted Living Center (7001 Riverbrook Drive, Sugar Land)

For more info email Cheryl at cmarshallmusic@gmail.com.

