

MATE/FCC
Christmas Letter – December 2020

Dear Friends,

“Unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder.” Isa. 9:6. Those inspired Old Testament prophets fore-told some amazing facts concerning the coming Messiah, but there was one major feature which they were not given either to know or to tell. A long time-gap of two thousand plus years between the fulfillment of the words, “Unto us a child is born,” and the later fulfillment of those words “The Government shall be upon His shoulder”. Not one of them knew that there were to be two comings of the one Messiah. Not one of them perceived that there was to be this present “Church” age intervening between His shouldering of the Sin-bearer’s cross and His shouldering of universal government. That was an undivulged secret of the divine counsels (Eph.3:5,9; 1Pet.1: 10,11). So, let us once again **look back** and marvel at His incarnation - One of the most fascinating progressive developments of prophecy concerning the Messiah-Saviour. God promised that the “seed” of the woman should “bruise the head” of the serpent (Gen.3:15). God said to Abraham “In thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed” (Gen.22:18). Then Jacob foretelling that “the sceptre shall not depart from Judah ... until Shiloh come” (Gen.49:10). Later God pledges to David “I will set up thy seed after thee ...and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever” (2Sam.7:12,13). The prophet Micah declares “Out of thee (Bethlehem of Judah) shall He come forth that is to be the ruler in Israel, from everlasting” (Mic. 5:2). Then Isaiah adds “Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name, Immanuel” (Isa. 7:14).

So it was revealed to Adam of which race He should come; then to Abraham of which nation; then to Jacob of which tribe; then to David of which family; then to Micah of which place; then to Isaiah of which woman; and at last it happened: “Unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given”!

But we must **look forward** and marvel at His coming world-dominion. Christmas is not only a commemoration; it is prophecy! It will really happen – and soon! He is to reign in full title as “Wonderful Counsellor; Mighty God; Everlasting Father; Prince of Peace”. His global empire are to be “peace, Judgement and Justice”, and the perpetuity of His reign is to be “from henceforth even unto the ages”?

Praise the Lord! He is the reason for the season. On behalf of the Board of MATE/FCC we would like to wish you and your family

“A Blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with PEACE, LOVE and HOPE.”

NEWS:

We would like to thank you for your prayers and support over the trying months of 2020. Though it has been difficult for all of us, God has proven to be sovereign and has kept us safe. Although all countries were locked down because of the Corona Virus some of our faithful people overseas were still able to minister to the needy. In **India**, 3,115 families received food supplies for a week, in **Ecuador**, 13 houses were built to house 13 families with as many as 8 in one family, in **Ethiopia**, preparations are being made for pastoral and Leadership Training, agriculture and housing construction. Please pray for us as we trust the Lord for His leading and provision in the New Year. **HE IS FAITHFUL!**

We extend our condolences to Marilyn Awong and her family in the home going of her mother(Angela Daniel), and to Lois Roberts and family in the home going of her husband (Dr. Paul Roberts). You are in our prayers.