JOYOUS CHRISTMAS GREETINGS! -- December, Nineteen-Seventy Six

"The Wondrous Gift"

In Handel's "Messiah" so often heard at Christmastide is the great choral, "For unto us a Son is born, unto us a Child is given and the government shall be upon His shoulders—and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty King, The Everlasting Father." What a wondrous gift was given to this world on that most unusual occasion! How different this world of ours is compared with Mars—and Jupiter—and the moon—where even our space exploration has taken us. No other planet that we know of has been so wonderfully blessed. We, alone, possess life of any sort as far as science has been able to ascertain. Life is (on the scale of our universe) a most unique possession. Here on earth we humans consider life so lightly that we think nothing of destroying it on every side (abortion, euthanasia, murder, capital punishment, pesticides, etc.). Man is a destructive being and those things which he does create are so often un-inspiring and grotesque.

Into the midst of the system of destructiveness and hatred, angels and shepherds sang a new song—a message of hope, love and joy. They told of a wondrous gift which down through the centuries has become man's only anchor of anticipation. All other avenues of hopefulness have closed one by one and man today stands confused and dubious wondering what the next decade will bring.

Then we hear the new song: "Something wonderful, something good—", "Through it all—through it all—I came to trust in Jesus, I came to trust in God—". It sings of life—not just life of the temporary, transitory variety—but life eternal, everlasting!

"I am come that they might have life and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:10)

"Shepherds singing—new life bringing—Jesus coming to this world of sorrow,
Angels heard—still the carol—there will be a happy morrow.
Jesus take my hand this day—wash away my heart's dismay.
Christmas come—most joyous time—bring Thy wondrous gift again.
O Saviour, Healer—ever mine—Gift of life, Way of Peace,
In how we thrill to contemplate!
Tranquil star of soul engrafted—spirit born—in turn create;
new worlds of harmony and joy.
New hearts and lives thy power employ—to give a Christmas overflowing
with those things of God ever growing.
In true meaning—ever leaning on the Gift—the Giver.
May we receive with open heart, childlike—the gift of life
—awed by the wonder of it all.

Thinking about life and living, death and dying somehow all tied in together at Christmas time, it occurs that nothing much has meaning except in Jesus. Sitting at the window of the old family cabin on the Au Sable in northern Michigan recently, I thought of all those who have gone on—recently—and in times past. The river keeps flowing on—never changing—and those who live beside—spend our hours—momentarily, transiently. Somehow, to me Christmas means much, much more this year—Jesus has made it so—and without Him it would not be much more than another joyous, winter day, suddenly past.

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HELP—PLEASE—HELP

If you are moving please let us know your new address right away (also include old address). Each time a Newsletter is returned to us with no address or a change of address the cost to us is twenty five cents. With your co-operation we can eliminate a great deal of this expense to CFM.

All of those on the CFM Staff wish you and your loved ones a joyous Christmas and a prosperous, and blessed 1977. May Jesus bless you all. Pray for and support this ministry of His as He leads you.
DAILY PRAYERS AT 1 PM IN THE CMF CHAPEL! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

MONDAY - Every Monday - 6:30 AM. Men's Prayer Breakfast at CMF House. COME!

TUESDAY - Every Tuesday - 10 AM. Ladies' Bible Study and Sandwich Luncheon. BRING A SANDWICH, PLEASE! Kay is now teaching a series of lectures, "The Inward Adorning and Beauty of the Hidden Person of the Heart." "The Clinical Correlation of the Gospel" by Dr. Reed at 1 PM. Healing Service, 2 PM.

SUNDAY - Nov. 28 - Dr. Reed and Kay at Church of the Resurrection (Episcopal) in Oklahoma City, Okla. Rev. Paul Kendall, Rector, Phone 405/721-2929.


FRIDAY - Dec. 10 - 8 PM. St. Petersburg CMF Station Meeting at St. Petersburg Federal Savings & Loan, 83rd Ave. at 9th St., St. Petersburg, Fla. Dr. Reed speaking.

SATURDAY - Dec. 11 - 8 AM. Plant City CMF Station Meeting at Johnson's Restaurant, Plant City, Fla. Dr. Reed speaking.

SATURDAY - Dec. 11 - 7:30 PM. Tampa CMF Station Meeting at CMF House, 4821 Memorial Highway, Tampa, Fla. CMF Family Christmas Party.

FRIDAY - Dec. 17 - 7:45 PM. Orlando CMF Station Meeting at Dover Shores Branch of First Federal Savings & Loan, 3212 Curry Ford Road, Orlando, Fla. Dr. Reed speaking. For information please call 305/894-6150, 425-2511 or 647-4667. PLEASE DO NOT CALL FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN.

SATURDAY - Dec. 18 - 7:30 PM. Daytona CMF Station Meeting at Holy Trinity By-The-Sea, North Grandview at Ora, Daytona Beach, Fla. For information please call Father David Dillon, Jr. 904/252-8997.

SONY VIDEO 3/4 INCH CARTRIDGE TAPES are available from CMF on such subjects as Coma, Malignancy, Euthanasia, Abortion, Patient's Bill of Rights and Morality in Medicine. These are interviews with Dr. Reed (Roy Leep, Moderator). SPECIAL EQUIPMENT IS NECESSARY FOR VIEWING. Write CMF for details.


CASSETTE TAPES OF A SERIES OF LECTURES ENTITLED, YOUR HOME, CHRIST'S SANCTUARY by Ray Reed are available from CMF. Please write for further details.

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Address Correction Requested
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