CHRISTMAS '96

"Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, to give light to them who sit in darkness and in shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." Luke 2:78,79

"And it came to pass, that, when Elizabeth heard the Salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in the womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost." Luke 1:41

Christmas is a time of miracles. It also is the season of love and family. Hope comes alive at Christmas. Beauty, and joy, and healing come with the arrival of the Christ-child in our homes and places of worship.

In thinking about incarnation, the stories of Christ's arrival in Bethlehem and remembering the Christmases of years gone by, I have written three poems plus a little Hanukkah bit to thank those who with us are awaiting the Messiah.

A BIOLOGIC VIEW OF CHRISTMAS

Did the conceived Jesus have the power as a blastocoele?  
Was there something in His embryonic form that Mary's soul could feel?  
When Jesus as a fetus caused joy at quick'ning time,  
Could he then have baptized John with the Holy Spirit sublime?  
At length when there with Joseph in the humble manger plain  
And Mary brought forth Jesus like all mothers in her pain  
Did Jesus cause the Tetanus Clostridia and bacilli of gas gangrene  
To behave as is they were benign and powerless. So it seems.  
Who would think to have a baby in a barn with animals and sheep?  
To attempt this act in what we know, certain death we'd surely reap  
But Jesus turned the stable into heaven and a place of beauty true  
A place of hope for all mankind, yes even me and you.  
And from this birth the world has changed and everything is new.  
Yes, Christmas is a holy time with a power to change us too.  
Just as He transformed the wise men and the youthful shepherd boys,  
He turns our sorrows into peace and our dirges into Messianic joys.

CHRISTMAS EMBRYOLOGY

If Mary's ovum did not enter into Jesus Christ's conception  
He must have come into our world by Holy Spirit predilection.  
Strange He must have gone through all embryologic phases  
From zygote to fetus to newborn through God and Mary's holy wondrous graces.  
Jesus and the Father were there when earth began  
They created all the creatures and then created man -  
They determined embryology with marvelous design  
Then Jesus came and went through it all in a process just as yours and mine.  
He even broke through waters holy - pure  
And tasted Mary's blood of that I'm very sure.  
So when you see the baby Christ there at Mary's breast  
Rejoice to see that e'en in birth He gave us life and Holy rest.
BABY JESUS, KING?

It really doesn't cause me pause
To reflect on why the Judcans doubted
That Jesus was Messiah in God's Holy cause
?To bring redemption to mankind
And defeat the evil in the hearts of man.
How could this baby have the power and the mind
To free the world from sin, bring peace unto the land?
The want, the sickness, the distress across the earth
A King, an army, a multitude must come with Him
Somehow to bring holiness and end earth's evil mirth?
How could Mary's child bring an end to Roman sin?
Man can never see the ways of God
Cannot determine what He's going to do -
Praise His Holy Name that God Himself has trod
This earth as Christ, His hope to give, make all things new.
And still today He brings His peace, His healing to us all -
He heals the hopeless. His hope is that all men may see -
The Prince of Peace, the Lord of Lords - The deaf may hear his call -
The blind will see, the dead will rise, O Savior why can't we?

Have a wonderful, blessed, merry Christmas - all who get this greeting. May 1997 be a superb year for all of us - worldwide. May wars and killing cease. May the genocide of abortion and euthanasia be stopped everywhere. May the evil of drugs, violence, immorality and hatred be washed from our shores by the Blood of the Lamb.

HANUKKAH

The seven canded menorah was reverently lighted.
Papa prayed the Shabbas prayer with all heads bowed
Reflecting on a time when Yahweh in His holy might
Gave oil for the lamps of Israel, a holy land endowed
By grace from him who lights the lives of darkened man
And promises Messiah to come and take away our pain.
Oh, light the candles, light the lives of all who can
Still see the hope that's coming in this day of latter rain.

Dedicated to my patients
Manny and Lucille Pasich
Rena and Marcia
1962

Spiritual Issues in PsychoTherapy

Dr. Terry Burrows, Christian Medical Foundation of Canada psychotherapist & co-founder of the General Practitioner PsychoTherapy Assn. of Canada, has come out with two excellent tapes wherein Dr. Kenneth Fung & Dr. Phil Walsh, both Ontario physician psychotherapists, discuss spirituality with reference to patient care. I have audited these tapes & find them extremely interesting. One must realize that this was the first such meeting concerning spirituality in psychotherapy that I know of in either the United States or Canada. They may have a different definition of spirituality than perhaps CMF doctors but we must realize that this is an entirely preliminary discussion. I believe it is tremendously profitable that these tapes be heard by CMF doctors whether they be involved in psychotherapy or another field. I highly recommend these tapes and congratulate Dr. Burrows on this initial endeavor. "Spiritual Issues in PsychoTherapy" (two C-60 cassettes) can be obtained by sending a check for $23 (U.S.) which includes postage & handling to: T. Burrows, M.D., P.O. Box 41011, 2795 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M6B 4J6 Canada. Please indicate if you would like to be on Dr. Burrow's Mailing List for further related topics on psycho-spiritual issues in healing. FAX 416 781-8196.

If you would like a copy of the Christmas edition of the American Physicians Poetry Association Journal in which Dr. Reed's poems are included, write or call CMF. We will see that you get one. Cost $3 plus p & h.

As 1996 ends please pray about giving a gift (Tax deductible) to Christian Medical Foundation.
We have great needs here at CMF Center as giving to this vital work has continued to diminish. Ask our Heavenly Father what he would have you do. Thank you and God Bless You.

CHRISTIAN MEDICAL FOUNDATION

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