

Christmas Triumphant

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. – Luke 2:3-14

Success in the Christmas season comes in many different ways. Some would say it is in the joyfulness and charity of the season. Perhaps to some it is getting all the packages wrapped and shipped or addressing the final Christmas card. Hopefully to many it is the realization that the baby Jesus who came over 2000 years ago is coming again.

Conflicts stem over nativity scenes in the town square and whether the proper greeting is *Merry Christmas* or *Happy Holidays*. We stress over meeting deadlines, being the perfect hostess, making sure we have the right gift for everyone.

As we hear the lyrics of the Christmas carols all the pressures of the season melt away. We focus on the real reason for the season. It is not about us or even our families; it is about the coming of God in flesh to be our Savior.

*Joyful, all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"*

We are invited to join the triumph of the skies as we celebrate Christmas. This is a bigger and more joyous celebration than anything we know. Believers through the ages offer the same accolades of victory as those shared that first Christmas night; the night that Christ was born.

God designed this grand celebration long before the shepherds were born or the inn was built, long before men decorated the Christmas tree or ventured out on a snowy night to sing carols.

The real triumph of Christmas is not the traditions as joyous as they are. The true triumph of Christmas is God so loved you that He came to earth so that He might offer his life as a sacrifice for you. The triumph is found in His sinless life, His sacrificial death His victorious resurrection and His soon return.