

The Unique Birth

And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call his name Jesus: for He shall save His people from their sins.—Matthew 1:21

There were many things about Jesus' birth that were unique. He was the virgin born Son of God. The details of his birth were foretold in the Scripture. Even the scenes in the sky proclaimed His unique birth.

Joni Eareckson Tada described the scene this way: "One minute the night skies over Bethlehem were cool and quiet; the next minute someone turned on the light switch. Stars that were twinkling suddenly stepped aside as the veil of heaven parted for an instant. An Angel stepped through the curtain of night, threw out his hands to let loose divine fireworks. *'And so there were with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill toward men (Luke 2:13-14).'*'"

The birth of the baby Jesus in the manger is truly unique. It was the only one of its kind. God came to earth to be born for a very specific purpose. One of the greatest aspects of his unique birth is found in Matthew 1:21. Here it tells that the baby was to be called Jesus for he had come to be the Savior. The name Jesus actually means "the Lord of His salvation".

Think of it, Christianity is the only religion with a Savior. In all other religions men must do something to please their god. Reward is based on an individual's merit. As Christians we do not have to earn salvation. Jesus came as the baby to save us from our sins. It is His gift of love to us. It is not based on our goodness but on His.

As I think of Christmas I am so thankful that I did not have to earn heaven, but Jesus loved me, and he loves you, so much that he willingly came to be our Savior.