**R828 Rumination for Dec 13, 2020**

The **T**heme: **A Child Is Born** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext: *For unto us* ***a child is born****, unto us a son is given.* Isa. 9:6

The **T**hots:

1. **The Child Moses** - *And* ***the child*** *grew…And she called his name* ***Moses****…* Exo. 2:10
2. If **C**aught, he was marked for Slaughter. Exo. 1:15-16

*The king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives…if it be a son, then ye shall kill him…*

1. But he had a **C**ourageous Mother. Exo. 2:1-3

*And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and…when she could not longer hide him,*

*she took for him an ark of bulrushes…and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.*

1. God **C**ontrolled the **C**ircumstances and the **C**hild was saved and grew up in **P**haraoh’s **P**alace. Exo. 2:9-10 *Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me…And the child grew,*

*and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses…*

1. He was later **C**alled to be his people’s Deliverer. Exo. 3:10

*Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth*

*My people the children of Israel out of Egypt.*

* Moses was Recognised as a Hero of Faith. Heb. 11:2, 5

*Moses was faithful in all his house…And Moses verily was faithful in all his house.*

1. **The Child Samuel.** I Sam. 2:21

*The LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived…and* ***the child Samuel*** *grew before the LORD*.

1. The **A**nguish of an un-**C**onceived Mother: I Sam. 1:5, 10

*The LORD had shut up her* [Hannah’s] *womb, and she was in bitterness of soul, and…wept sore.*

1. Samuel was the **A**nswer to a **C**rying Mother. I Sam. 1:20

*It came to pass…after Hannah had conceived, that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel,*

*saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD.*

1. He served as an **A**pprentice to Eli the Priest. I Sam. 3:1

*The child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli.*

1. He was later **A**ppointed to **A**nnounce a King for Israel though not **A**pproved by God. I Sam. 8:22

*The LORD said to Samuel, Hearken unto their voice, and make them a king.*

* Samuel was **A**cknowledged as one of the Heroes of Faith. Heb. 11:32

*What shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell…of David also, and* ***Samuel****, and of the prophets:*

1. **The Child Jesus**.
2. The **P**rophecy **F**oretold: *Unto us* ***a child*** *is born, unto us a* ***son*** *is given:* Isa. 9:6
3. The **P**rediction **F**ulfilled:

*Behold, a virgin shall be with* ***child****, and shall bring forth a* ***son****,*

*and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.* Mt. 1:23

1. The **P**rocess of **F**aith: Matt. 1:18

*Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as His mother Mary was espoused to Joseph,*

*before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.*

1. The **P**arent’s **F**ear allayed: Matt. 1:20-21

*Joseph…fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.*

1. The Child’s **P**roper **F**irst Name:
2. *She shall bring forth a son…and shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins*
3. *Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name EMMANUEL, which being interpreted is, God with us.* Mt. 1:23
4. The Magi’s **P**resents of **F**rankincense, gold and myrrh in Worship. Matt. 2:11

*And when they were come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother,*

*and fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures,*

*they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.*

The Child **G**rew up to be the Man of Sorrows, acquainted with **G**rief. Isa. 53:3

*He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief:*

*and we hid as it were our faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.*

* We need to **P**ut our **F**aith in Him… Heb. 12:2

*Looking unto Jesus the Author and* ***F****inisher of our* ***F****aith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

This month of December, many will be **R**eminded of **the Child**, Jesus

But for Today, let us **R**emember **the Man** of Sorrows Isa. 53:3-5

*He is despised and rejected of men; a Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief:*

*…He was despised, and we esteemed Him not.*

*…He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows…smitten of God, and afflicted.*

*…He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities:*

 *the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed.*

*Man of Sorrows! what a name For the Son of God, who came*

 *Ruined sinners to reclaim. Hallelujah! What a Savior!* Philip P. Bliss

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 828**

1. Every Christmas season, dioramas, presentations and decorations are set up in malls, public places, stages, etc. to remind the world of the Birth of Jesus. Scenes of the Nativity, such as the Child in His mother’s arms, the Child lying in the manger, the Child under a starry sky, the Child at the base of a Christmas tree, etc. are depicted and presented to the public reminding all, the Christ in the Cradle but none exhibiting the Christ on the Cross.

[Note: However, even the above items are disappearing and in their places we see substitutes of Christmas paraphernalia such as Christmas trees, Santa Claus, reindeers, sledges, elves, and many more Christmas decorations and folklore tradtions which have nothing to do with the Christ of Christmas.

Yet, the whole purpose of the Coming of Christ into this world was not and never to live and prosper in the sight of men, *but made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.* (Phil. 2:7, 8). Yes, Jesus was born to die that those who believe in Him might live.

Hence, the Christmas story will never be complete without mentioning His death and resurrection. Without the last two, especially, His resurrection, He would be no different from any other man or any man who claimed to be god. Yet at every Christmas season, we often just present and proclaim His birth, without mentioning the purpose for which He came, leading to the sacrifice of His life for lost sinners in the shedding of His precious blood to achieve the propitiation for our sins. For many, including Christians, the mention of Christ’s shed blood to make atonement for sins is indeed taboo and must not be mentioned to spoil the joyous spirit of the season.

Do you agree? And do you subscribe to this world’s presentation of Jesus during the Christmas season? How would you present Jesus to your friends this Christmas season? **REFLECT.**

1. **The Blessing of Children.**

Psa. 127:5 (MSG) - *Oh, how blessed are you parents, with your quivers full of children!* Psa. 127:5 - *Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed.*

Rom. 8:32 *- He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all,*

 *How shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?*

Eph. 6:1-3 - *Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.*

Gen. 50:23 –

And Joseph saw Ephraim's **children of the third generation…**

<= **Children of three generations in my family.**

Children are a blessing from the Lord. And Blessed are the parents who bring them up to love, obey and honour them.

The greatest blessing, of course, is to see them one by one, knowing the Lord and coming into His saving grace, be baptised, love and honour the Lord, live for Him and serving Him to glorify Him in their lives.

Are you enjoying this blessing of a blessed family in the Lord? **REFLECT**.

**Points to Ponder:**

*When* ***G****od* ***G****ave us His Son, there is nothing else better that He can* ***G****ive us!*