

12/03/2009

Dear Friends at Rolling Acres,

It's the most wonderful time of the year!! Or so it would seem....Christmas specials in the stores, Christmas lights out on houses, Christmas music on the radio stations, people driving like crazy out of excitement for the season (although it would seem to me that Ohio drivers think that it's Christmas time year round!). A wise theologian once grew frustrated with the hustle and bustle of Christmas. Charlie Brown wanted to go back to the true meaning of Christmas. His buddy Linus tells the Biblical story of angels announcing the birth of the Savior to shepherds. They dash off to see the newborn baby. When they arrive, they worship the King of Kings, and share their story of God's revelation to them and how they responded. Let's take a cue from Charlie Brown and look past the "me-ness" ( a newly coined Smittyism) that Christmas has subtly become and let's also take a cue from the shepherds and rush to the manger to see the Christ child. With our focus upon Him, we can have perspective on what this time of year is truly about: God sending His Son that we might have peace with the Father. Christ Himself is the Light of Christmas and He is the light that came into the darkness to show us the way to the Father (John 1:4) that we might become children of God (John 1:12). Don't believe the lie that the world tells us that buying perfect gifts, running about, cookies, and other things can fill us with what our heart deeply longs for within. That longing is only met by the tiny little guy who came into this world surrounded by animals that once was on a throne in Heaven. His desire is to have the throne in your heart. With Him in your heart, it can be the most wonderful time of the year, any time of the year. So let's celebrate Christ this Christmas (!) and pass the cookies!

Blessings in His love,

Pastor Andy

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