



Pastor Ken Studer

Sunday, December 9, 2007

Scripture Reading: Romans 15:4-13

TODAY'S THOUGHT: *The only blind person at Christmas time is he who has not Christmas in his heart.* —Helen Keller

What can the birth of a mere child possibly mean to the world? It's a good question. Yet the birth of the Christ child in Bethlehem approximately 2,010 years ago is of enormous significance. It's hard to understand how pivotal this birth was.

To get a sense of how a baby can be such a boon to humankind, consider this story that comes to us from a war long ago, World War I. Some of you reading this may have been born during that war or shortly thereafter.

Day was dawning on the battlefield in northern France. It was a dismal, foggy morning. During the night, the German armies had receded a short way, and the French army had advanced a bit. Between the two positions, a lonely farmhouse was still standing.

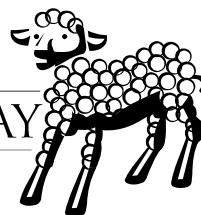
As the day grew brighter the guns began to boom — but suddenly on both sides, there was a strange dead silence. Midway between the trenches, near the shattered farmhouse, there was, crawling on its hands and knees, a little baby. Not a shot was fired. The spot, which moments before had been an inferno of flying shells, was now something like a peaceful island.

Suddenly a soldier jumped out of a trench, and ran to where the small child was crawling. He tenderly picked up the child and carried it to shelter. Out from the trenches on both sides, came a loud cheer. The appearance of a little baby brought a temporary peace. In the same way, the coming of Jesus into the world was intended to bring peace among us. Perhaps it's time to stop firing upon each other, and pick up the baby.

Prayer: O God, the baby of Bethlehem is a reminder of the peace You bring to us. The angels sang "Peace on earth." May I be a person of peace, and one who is a peace-maker. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday: 1 John 3-5
- Monday: 2 John, 3 John, Jude
- Tuesday: Revelation 1-3
- Wednesday: Revelation 4-6
- Thursday: Revelation 7-9
- Friday: Revelation 10-12
- Saturday: Psalms 139-141



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3
3	3	3	3

THREES TO GO!

Strike out four 3s so that there are only three 3s in each row and three 3s in each column. Find two different ways to do it. Two solutions are below.

COMPOUND WORDS

Combine the 3-letter words on the top with the 3-letter words on the bottom to form 20 new words.

- | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| tea | bat | boo | car | out |
| for | nap | man | fat | but |
| box | pot | dim | tip | bit |
| tip | red | car | cot | see |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| ton | ton | top | kin | her |
| boy | eye | car | wit | pet |
| toe | wit | boo | age | bid |
| saw | ten | ton | pot | man |

