

HERITAGE *Herald* December 17, 2017



THIS WEEK:

Dear Friends and Members,

This week, here in the Southern Tier of New York, we have seen the arrival of snow and temperatures that plunged into the single digits, feeling even lower with the wind chill factor. We praise the Lord for our wood heat and the warmth that we have from it.

This coming Wednesday night is our **Annual Christmas Caroling** event;



a time in which we go into the community singing Christmas songs from our hymnal. We have two men that ring the door bell, introduce the church carolers, give a Christmas tract and candy canes while the carolers sing from the curb. It has always been a blessed time of sharing Christ in song.

On Friday the children will meet at the church for a “Christmas Pizza Party” at lunchtime. Following the party, they will have a rehearsal for their “Christmas Program” which will take place at our Christmas Eve service on Sunday evening December 24th.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Dec 20 - | Christmas Caroling |
| Dec 24 - | Christmas Eve Service and Children's Program,
6:00 PM |
| Jan 8 - | HBTS Module, <i>Titus</i> , 6:30 PM (Mondays, through
Feb 5) |

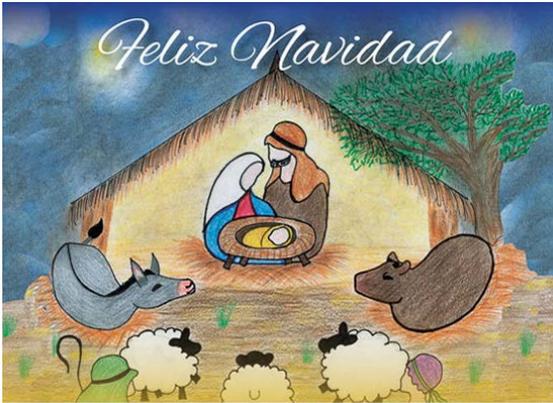
a newsletter from

HERITAGE BAPTIST CHURCH
5923 State Route 17C
Endicott, NY 13760
607-786-9496

• **VISIT OUR WEBSITE** •
for more information and archived Herald's
www.heritagebaptistchurch.info
or email the pastor
hbc5923@stny.rr.com

SERVICE TIMES
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10 AM
SUNDAY MORNING - 11 AM
SUNDAY EVENING - 6 PM
WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK - 7 PM

for the discerning



How Not to Celebrate the Birth of Jesus

As we approach December 25th, all around us the traditional markers of the season have appeared. Trees and yards full of lights, and seasonal songs and greetings are all around. Delivery trucks buzz around in a frenzy. Our e-mail and mailboxes are full of sale flyers and offers and cards. The

calendar has cantatas, concerts, and gatherings marked on it.

At this time of year, in an atmosphere of Happy Holidays and Season's Greetings and all the humanistic, worldly efforts to fabricate happiness while keeping politically correct, let us consider the Spanish greeting "***Feliz Navidad***". Literally this means "*Happy Nativity*" or even "*Happy Birthday*". ***Navidad*** is a proper noun connecting specifically to this one particular birth...the arrival of the Christ child, the Messiah, the Lord and Saviour of all the earth.

No greater, more significant birthday has ever been memorialized in the history of the earth. Yet on the actual day of Christ's birth, the world was similarly preoccupied with the demands of daily life; taxes, politics, commerce, and the battle among men for supremacy and self-indulgence.

They lived under a government with a huge appetite and leaders who ruthlessly fought to gain and keep power. A study of the events of history at the time shows the abundance of violence and lust for power and pleasure present in the men of the day.

One such evil man was the king of the region where Jesus was born, Herod. Upon hearing that wise men had come from the east to find the one "*born King of the Jews*", King Herod was troubled. In Matthew

for the discerning (continued from page 2)

chapter 2, we learn that Herod “gathered all the chief priests and scribes...and demanded of them where Christ should be born.” He also “privily called the wise men, [and] “enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.” He pretended to want to “worship Him also.”

The true intent of this wicked man was to eliminate any possible threat to his pursuit of pleasure and especially to his power. Matthew 2:16 reveals his intent. “Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wrath, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.”

Thus we see Herod took notice of the arrival of Jesus Christ. He met with experts in order to gain more knowledge. He believed what the scriptures foretold. He even expressed a desire to worship Him. Yet, ultimately He chose to live governed by carnal appetite. Herod gives us a graphic example of how **not** to celebrate Jesus Christ’s birth.

Josephus said in his historical work, “The Antiquities of the Jews,” that Jesus was “a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure.” This year, as the birth of Christ is celebrated in homes and churches throughout the world, will you be as Herod who chose to please his own appetite, or will you be one who receives the truth with pleasure?

Feliz Navidad!

-Brad Baldwin

MonthlyMemoryVerse

His unspeakable gift

*“Thanks be unto God for
His unspeakable gift.”*

2 Corinthians 9:15

Notable Historic QUOTE:



“Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.”

- Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790)
US Colonial Statesman



"The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law."
Deuteronomy 29:2

current schedule: *

Jan 8-Feb 5, 2018

TITUS

Dr. Caswell A. Reeves
Mondays, 6:30 PM

Mar 5-9, 2018

ACTS

Dr. Thomas M. Strouse
M-F evenings, Time TBA

**all classes at HBC unless otherwise noted.*

To see all of the degree programs offered by HBTS, please visit our website at:
heritagebaptistchurch.info/theologicalseminary.htm

SEMINARY BOOKSHELF

Books may be purchased through Heritage Baptist Church (607-786-9496) or Bible Baptist Church (860-229-5387)

A Primer of Baptist History \$20.00	Daniel \$20.00	The Doctrine of Heaven's Music \$20.00	
En Epheso \$20.00	Genesis \$20.00	Geocentricity \$10.00	If Any Man Be in Christ \$15.00
I Will Build My Church \$15.00	Jonah \$10.00	The Lord God Hath Spoken \$15.00	
Peter \$20.00	Proverbs \$20.00	Psalms 1 - 41 \$20.00	Psalm 119 \$20.00
Spiritual Gifts \$8.00	I & II Thessalonians \$10.00	Titus \$20.00	Revelation \$30.00

What Manner of Love

I John 3:1-3

Message by *Dr. Caswell A. Reeves*



God's love has given us sonship in the family of God through Jesus Christ. This sonship of God's love is identified by:

- I. Distinction or character different from the world (vs. 1)
 - A. An intimate relationship with the world is missing
 - B. The world does not have an understanding of you

- II. Knowledge of Christ's coming (vs. 2)
 - A. Some areas of question
 - B. Christ's appearance without question
 - C. We shall be like Him
 - D. It will be a physical appearance

- III. Hope that causes purifying (vs. 3)
 - A. Understanding hope versus guessing hope
 - B. Purity in the manner of living

Christians are the way they are because of the Love of God which brought Christ and salvation. Do you have the identifying marks of sonship?