

Christmas is a time for singing.

Luke's gospel is the 'singing Gospel.'
Four songs in the first two chapters.

Christmas is a time for visiting

Angels visit Mary, Joseph, Zechariah,
and the Shepherds. Mary visits Elizabeth.
The Shepherds and the Magi visit Jesus.

These visits are part of the larger story of God visiting his world with salvation.

Joseph in Egypt. ***'God will surely visit you (come to your aid)*** (Genesis 50:24)

Moses in Egypt. ***'I have visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt'***
(Exodus 3:16)

'Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited us' (Luke 1:65-66; 7:16).

The Word became flesh' (Jn 1:14).
(Philippians 2:6-8).

'Jesus 'emptied Himself - gave up His divine
privileges (NLT) - taking the form of a servant'

Jesus' birth is his appearing.
Have you seen and believed?

'He appeared in the flesh.....' (1 Tim 3:16)
'The appearing of our Savior' (2 Tim 1:9-10)

Jesus will appear again:
Are you ready for his return?

***'Now dear children, continue in him, so that
when he appears we may be confident and
unashamed before him at his coming'*** (1 Jn 2:28).

Jesus visits us now with his grace. Are you feeling restricted – muzzled –
limited - frustrated? Jesus visits us in
the extremities and difficulties of life.

Jesus is present with power to save!

Luke 1:68-75	For	those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death
	He	raised up a horn of salvation for us
	In	the house of his servant David
	By	remembering his covenant with Abraham
	To	<i>show mercy to our ancestors remember his holy covenant the oath he swore to our father Abraham to rescue us from the hand of our enemies to enable us to serve him without fear</i>
	In	holiness and righteousness before him all our days

God has visited his people (Luke 7:16).

This Christmas be Moral (1 Peter 2:12) **and Missional** (Revelation 22:17).