

Passage to Ponder

(Acts 19:8)

And he went into the synagogue and spoke boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading concerning the things of the kingdom of God.

Today in our Bible study of Acts 19:8-20 we're going to see Paul's ministry and message which he preach in Ephesus. Where told concerning his message in verse 8, that he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God. What are the things concerning the kingdom of God?

Paul no doubt expounded on the many old testament prophecies to show Jesus' second coming to set up His kingdom on earth. Also Paul's messages on the kingdom probably touched on the message of Christmas. Yes I did say the message of Christmas! Paul didn't talk about presents or old saint Nick, but he told them about the first coming of the king of the universe Jesus Christ which is what Christmas is all about. Let's think our kings first coming!

The first coming of Jesus was one of humility and sacrifice for example, Jesus was not born in a royal bed or in a palace, but He was born in a barn and laid in a feeding trough, Jesus' birth was not hailed by the rulers of Israel, but shepherds. Jesus grew not in a wealthy kingdom, rather His family was poor only able to offer two pigeons for His sacrifice. Jesus when He was proclaimed as Messiah and King He was not hailed or honored, John tells us that He came to His own and His own did not receive Him. Jesus was rejected, beaten, mocked, as the king by a getting a purple robe, a crown of thrones, then a Roman Cross.

Jesus death was tragic but it was not an accident, but it was planned so that we could become citizens of His kingdom. Hebrews 12:2 explain it like this, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

This Christmas lets remember the sacrifice that our king made for us which was the joy that was set before Him. When we do rather than stressing on nonessentials we will remember the savior, rather than worrying about money of ourselves we will drawn to worship the king and remember His soon coming.