



REGRET NO MORE

Missing Christmas

Ben Ratchford, Lead Pastor

benratchford@gmail.com | December 20, 2020

_____ is being stressed over the “could haves.”

We can miss out on God’s plan for the future because our thoughts are consumed with the regrets of the past.

Matthew 1:18, Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:19, Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly.

Matthew 1:20, But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:21, “And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.”

Matthew 1:22-23, So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: “*Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,*” which is translated, “God with us.”

Matthew 1:24-25. Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name JESUS.

So how do we deal with regret?

R _____

R _____

R _____

Tim Keller wrote, “Look at what God has done to get you to know Him personally. If the Son would come all this way to become a real person to you, don’t you think the Holy Spirit will do anything in His power to make Jesus a real person to you in your heart? Christmas is an invitation to know Christ personally. Christmas is an invitation by God to say: Look what I’ve done to come near to you. Now draw near to Me. I don’t want to be a concept; I want to be a friend.”