

What do I want for Christmas?

Cornel Ghita, 14 dec.2012

The world we live in is very little interested in understanding the true meaning of Christmas. This special occasion is used by the retailers for profit and people get together, party, give each other gifts, and maybe some will even go to church. The festive entourage goes full speed past the Bethlehem manger in its mad rush towards a shopping centre. People have a careless attitude towards one of the most important and glorious events that ever occurred in history, because they don't understand who is the One born in Bethlehem.

At this time of year we give each other gifts. We give and receive gifts. We have wishes that we express or leave unsaid. I would like to share with you what I would like for this occasion. These wishes are according to God's will, and I hope that you, dear readers, sincerely wish the same things.

1. To have Mary and Joseph's faith

When the angel announced God's message to Mary, she said:

"Truly I am the Lord's servant. Let everything you have said happen to me."

- Mary's faith helped her believe the impossible. Why? Because this Word came from God, and she trusted God.

- Mary's faith enabled her to accept possible prejudice from other people, and even from Joseph

- Mary's faith made her humble herself.

Joseph's strong faith we see through the following:

- he believes the message from the angel that appeared in his dream

- he obeys and does exactly according to God's Word. (He doesn't leave Mary, although he had thought about it, then when God tells him to go to Egypt, he obeys immediately. Then he does the same when God tells him to come back from Egypt.)

2. To obey as the shepherds obeyed

The shepherds listened to and obeyed when the angel told them. They went to Bethlehem to see what the Lord had made known to them.

I would like to hear God's voice as they heard it, to hear the angel and the choir of angels. I would like my heart to be flooded with the joy, splendour and glory of heaven, as the heart of the shepherds was.

3. To worship as the wise men

They weren't from the people of Israel. They came from afar to search for the new-born King. They looked for Him, found Him and worshiped Him. The gifts they brought (gold, myrrh, frankincense) symbolise what they believed about the baby. They believed He is King, Prophet and Priest.

When we look around at the multitude of people rushing around more than usual during these days, if we were to ask what they wish for the most this Christmas, some would say peace and harmony at home, some would wish health, a job, a car, a house, etc.

But you, my dear reader? What are the things you desire most now, when we celebrate the birth of God's Son?