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Grace Appreciation

The birth of Jesus, properly told to your children, should bring a much greater and more positive astonishment than ever did the myths of Santa. No child or adult should be robbed of the beauty and truth-grounded joy experienced when learning the glorious story of Jesus' arrival. As children mature, they can grow in understanding of his life, future return and the dispensation of grace. 'Tis the season for *grace appreciation*.

No one's mind, including ours, fully grasps the enormity of what the term *grace* entails within Christian theology. It is exceedingly beyond the stratosphere of human comprehension. We understand its glorious meaning in part (1 Cor. 13:12). It is astonishing that after humans hear such a glorious offer, some who even suspect that it might be true, arrogantly or obtusely walk away from it as if other interests were worthy of competing with it. – Are we humans altogether nuts in sin? – The answer is yes, until the grace of God is accepted and a new mind of understanding and heart of appreciating God and his glorious plan are placed within us.

Make no mistake; God wants all to be saved (1 Ti. 2:4). Make no mistake, if we refuse his offer after hearing it, we will be rightly held accountable for such misconduct, for we refuse the only one who can cover our debts. We owe these debts to someone much greater than and more worthy of compensation than is society when unspeakable crimes are orchestrated against it.

Those who negligently reject having their crimes pardoned, in effect judge and condemn themselves, by having refused the reprieve. – It is our choice. - Choose life (Acts 13:46b; Deut. 30:19).

Jesus came into this world, not so that we could all witness what a cute baby he would make or get "sweetzified" by manger scenes. He came to deliver humanity from sin and eternal destruction. He showed us the way of life by living and modeling it for us. The enormity of appreciation we should have when considering God's willingness to partake of human nature should shake the tectonic plates under our feet. We should at least feel the floor vibrate - and rejoice with awe and confident hope.