



## Wayne's Words

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### The Christmas Paradigm Shift

The King of kings and Creator of the universe did not come as the magi from the East expected. He was born in a shed where animals were kept. Nor did his life take the direction the Jews of the day expected of the Messiah, to liberate them from the Romans. He rather called people to change their ways and addressed the heart issue of sin that

affects everyone, friend and foe.

Isaiah had written – “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As high as the heavens are above the earth are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (55:8-9)

I wonder how far our expectations and thoughts of God continue to stray from God's actual intent and method. Might this be the reason that many find it hard to identify God amid much chaos and suffering in the world? Yet this is the God who entered that suffering to make a way through it for us—to restore our relationship with our Maker, and through him with each other.

The answer to the suffering in the world is a very personal one. God's strategy starts with our heart response to this surprising and humble God. As we discover the reality of his love, we find ourselves changing our attitude toward others, and growing in our awareness of God's call to make a difference in the world. Imagine this dynamic occurring in many thousands of lives around the world, and in communities of likeminded people emerging to affect change through loving actions.

Take the time this Christmas to look afresh at the person of Jesus, and you may be surprised by the outcome.

God bless you,

*Wayne*