## "IMAGINE THAT!"

## "Thanks be to God for His indescribable [Unimaginable] Gift." 2 Corinthians 9:15

For some strange reason, John Lennon's song "Imagine" has captivated so many. It's decades old, yet you still hear it played on the radio, in concerts, on commercials, and even at some public memorial events. Essentially, Lennon is asking us to "Imagine" a world without war, strife, borders, heaven, hell or God. It's asking us to envision a Utopia where there is only peace and love flowing from all people everywhere, and where everybody shares everything alike. The idea is: if we can imagine it, we can accomplish it. This sounds so lovely – and, in this life, completely unattainable.

But I'd like you to "imagine" something else. Imagine that to this world of violence, heartache and death, Peace and Love came, not as a concept, but as a Person. I want you to imagine that this Person was able to change hearts, make enemies into friends, reconcile sinful people to God and even defeat death itself. I want you to imagine that this Person alters the world and will one day make all things new. Does this Person that I'm asking you to imagine sound just as fanciful (and impossible) as the perfect world John Lennon imagines?

Well, what I'm talking about you don't have to imagine – it really happened – in real time and in real history. The birth of Jesus Christ fulfilled thousands of years of promises from God to redeem sinful mankind. His birth as a baby into our flesh and nature connects Him to us in a very tangible way for all eternity. He embodies perfect Love and perfect Peace. Through His death on the cross, He has reconciled us to God, and by His resurrection, destroyed the curse and power of death for all who believe in Him.

It is through Christ that those who are natural enemies can become brothers. It is through Christ that the hope of eternal life is not a pipe dream, or lovely wish, but an actual reality. It is by Christ's glorious return that this world of darkness, heartache and death will be transformed, and all things will be made new.

And all this He gives to you freely, gladly, willingly, that you may be His own forever.

Imagine that!

God bless you, and have a very, Merry Christmas.