

Christmas Day 2022 800

Mariah Carey sings, All I want for Christmas is you!

What does God want for Christmas?

All He wants for Christmas is you!

Why would he want you?

God said to his people as they were about to enter the promised land:

I love you, I have chosen you, don't mix with other people who worship other Gods - All I want is you.

Funny enough God said to a man called David:

- I love you
- I have chosen you to be king.
- My Son Jesus will come from your family tree.
- all I want is you

Why does God choose to love people?

It says, David was in the shed wondering.

Finally he spat it out, “ **Lord, Who am I, and what is my life, that you love me and want me?**” (2 Sam 7:18)

Do you even know me?

- I'm the one who cut off 200 foreskins to pay for my first wife.
- I've lost count how many women I have taken captive
- I danced naked in front of the Ark of the Covenant.
- I know you know about me and Bathsheba in the bath.
- I know you know how I killed her husband to cover up the pregnancy.

Lord, you know me and yet you love me.

“Lord, Who am I, and what is my life, that you love me and want me?”

God said to David:

I love you and everybody so much that I sent my one and only son to you, so that anyone who believes in Him will not die but have eternal life.

This is Christmas.

I didn't send my Son so that he would condemn people, I sent him so that everyone could be saved through Him.

Don't you know the Gospel – what Paul said: “I demonstrate my love for you in this: While you were still sinners, Jesus died for you.” (Rom 5:8)

It's true that God wants us.

It's even truer that God knows what we're like and still wants us.

You are the centre of God's attention, and affection, despite the life we live.

He knows the way we are with servants,

- with money,
- with power,
- with other people's wives or husbands.

He knows the way we dance and speak,

- the way we fight,
- the way we treat life.

He knows we are all “king David’s” in some way.
 And yet he Loves us – and sent his Son to live among us, to teach us, and to lay down his life for us.

We always have one eye on Easter at Christmas time.

Hot cross buns will be on the shelves before you know it.

God loves us more than we can imagine.

David was bold enough to ask **“Lord God Who am I, and what is my life, that you love me and want me?”**

You too can ask the same question:

“Lord God, Who am I, and what is my life, that you love me and want me?”

That question is like a confession:

- Lord, look at my life?
- It’s bad – why would you?

Seeing David is our model today.

You must know one of the greatest and shortest events in history. God helped, David come to realise his sins, especially around Bathsheba – adultery, scheming, lying, murder.

A little story about a rich greedy man stealing his neighbours one and only sheep - is what done it.

Through this David realised he was the rich greedy man.

David Confessed his sins – it the most beautiful and shortest confession and absolution in all of God's word.

“I have sinned against the Lord” 6 words.

In Hebrew it was only 2 words – Hata-al Yahweh.

Less is best –Try it.

Adultery, greed, murder, lies – the deepest sins – Hata-al Yahweh
– I have sinned against the Lord.

“The greatest griefs need not be lengthy to confess”.

And God is about as “wordy” as David – **“you are forgiven”**

“Good news need not be long”

This Christmas – go and lean on a gate, sit on a stump and ask:
“Lord God, Who am I, and what is my life, that you love me and want me?”

It's a confession – and the deeper the confession – the deeper meaning to that baby lying in the hay.

As the Angels sing: born that we no more may die.

Yes, Christmas just isn't Christmas unless we have an eye on Easter.

Lord lead us to repent so that we can see the Christ child in a new way.

Lead us to repent so that we can see the depth of you love that you would want us. Amen.