

“Glad Tidings, Faithfully Delivered”

My wife and I were very grateful when we received a lovely Christmastime greeting card from an out-of-state relative this year. However, this card (postmarked well before Christmas) arrived weeks after Christmas. The belated greeting was accompanied by an apology from the United States Postal Service explaining that the card was inadvertently damaged by them at the height of this year’s busy Christmas season. Despite the best efforts of the USPS, occasional disruptions in the timely delivery of Christmas greetings are bound to happen. It’s just a fact of life, isn’t it?

Perhaps much the same could be said of God’s own delivery of Christmas greetings or much of the other news He attempts to bring us. Perhaps God also seems tardy and guilty of delivery malfunctions in our lives from time to time.

Do you ever have doubts and concerns about God’s delivery efficiency? Perhaps at certain times of the year or at certain times of profound need in your life, He simply has seemed too busy. Preoccupied with other people, maybe the Lord somehow overlooked the faithful and punctual delivery of His Words of peace, grace, and joy to you. After all, given God’s workload such disruptions in delivery are bound to occur, aren’t they?

In Biblical times God took great care to prepare and deliver His glad tidings of the Savior’s birth. He deployed the ancient prophets, His legion of angels, and, of course, Mary and Joseph to announce the blessings, comfort, and reassurance of His salvation Gift to mankind. The Lord also mobilized the shepherds, the magi, John the Baptist, the disciples, and each one of His inspired New Testament writers to deliver these same divine greetings.

The Lord’s steadfast attention to the faithful and punctual delivery of His Word did not end there. He painstakingly and most lovingly continued His delivery service excellence as He guided the proclamation of His news to you and to me. He worked gloriously through grandparents, parents, siblings, husbands, wives, children, teachers, pastors, and Christian friends and neighbors. Yes, the Word of God became flesh, and through the faithful delivery of those glad tidings we came to know and to trust His truth and grace. (John 1)

This truth testifies to the Lord’s fervent care for you still today, and, indeed, forevermore. He places His message of forgiveness, guidance, and strength before you this day. He gives you faith to grasp the life-changing significance of His Word. He enlists you in His first-class delivery service. He promises each one of us that His Spirit-born Word accomplishes great things and in the most timely and efficient manner.

And what is this ever-timely message of glad tidings? Yes, indeed, you have it right there in your heart: “Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so.”

Pastor Case