

When past reality transforms our future hope

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The way we would like things to be

What does your future hold?

“When you get to the end of your life what do you want to have seen happen?”

Desire # 1 ... no more trouble in any of our relationships .. for any of us ... for ever?

Desire # 2 ... no sickness or pain ... for any of us ever?

Desire # 3 ... no death ... no end of life ... for any of us ... ever?

... eternal future in which trouble caused by broken relationships, pain and sicknesses caused by broken bodies and death Are all gone... forever.

Revelation 21:3

The way things are today

... the world news is predominately both bad and sad.

Why is it that we seem to be unable to make real and lasting change?

... the root cause of all the brokenness that exists in our world is caused by sin.

How history enables us to have a perfect eternal future

What does any of this have to do with celebrating Christmas?

Romans 3:20

- Laws do not fix the problem of sin.
- The Law does not make us right before God it simply makes us conscious of sin.

So what fixes our problem of our sin?

Romans 3:21-22

... we can be justified from sin

= “just as if we had never sinned”

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Jesus fixes the problem of our sin... but HOW does Jesus do it?

Romans 3:25 ... by presenting himself as a sacrifice of atonement to redeem us.

= Jesus offered himself to pay the debt of our sin and to wipe away the guilt of our sin to make us right before God.

Is the solution of Jesus the best solution to our problem of sin?

... maintains God's character of justice and mercy AND it fixes our problem

God is a God who is just

God is also merciful.

... loves everyone and he wants people to have their problem of sin fixed.

So how much does God's solution all cost us?

... offered to us free of charge ... as a gift.

If what you wanted out of life in the long term was offered to you through Jesus, as a free gift would you take hold of it?