



Friends ~

"For your sake God was not content to be God but willed to become man; for you he emptied himself that you may be exalted; for you he gave himself that you may be lifted up and drawn to him... The Christmas story then is a story that is enacted with us and for us."

Those are the words of one of the greatest Christian thinkers of the 20th century, Karl Barth. And he is right. Christmas is not just about the babe in Bethlehem. It is about the God of heaven who was willing to leave transcendent glory to come near to us as one of us. Christmas is about God's will to be with us. Emmanuel.

While the colorfully lighted tree and decorations and gifts and food are all delightful, far more wondrous is Jesus. The charm of the story of his birth exists only because the rest of his life draws us to God. For us he is the truth and love of God revealed to give us hope and life.

May our hearts be filled with the spirit of Christmas. As the New Year dawns, may we seek more ways to show the presence of Jesus in our own lives. Merry Christmas!

Grace and Peace,
Craig M. Watts
Minister