

Weekly Eagle News – Head of Schools

My Favorite Parents:

Merry Christmas!

As we celebrate this year, I think it is important to recognize that we are observing an event that took place 2,000+ years ago. There is nothing that took place that long ago in human history that is recognized so broadly today. And the reason for this singular celebration is the importance of what was taking place.

On that day when Christ was born in Bethlehem of Judea, the kingdom of God invaded the kingdom of man. He came to bring peace and offer joy. He came to make a way for us to be restored to right relationship with God.

He came into a world dominated by *Pax Romana*, the Roman peace that later fostered the spread of the Gospel message. This was the best version of peace that the world could offer, yet it was horribly flawed. *Pax Romana* was sustained by the edge of the sword. While it resulted from the successful condensing of power by Caesar Augustus, it was marked by continuing internal intrigue and conflict (cue Marc Antony) and characterized by wars on the frontiers of the Roman Empire. The name “Augustus” reminds us that Caesar sought to be deified, the object of human worship, further contrasting with Christmas, when God himself became “*Emmanuel*”, God with us.

Our human conflict starts with our fractured relationship with God, the result of Adam’s sin and the sin nature we all possess. Christmas was the beginning of a new covenant between God and man, a new means through which that fractured relationship could be healed. Through Christ’s life and death on the cross, he paid the price we deserve to pay for our sins. By accepting this gift from God, by recognizing our own sins and by repenting, we can be made right with God. This brings peace that is unexplainable.

Kudos to alumnus and current RCS grandparent, Brad Mason, for the publishing of a children’s book that he authored entitled “Charlie Chaloozy is often Quite Choosy.” The book has been recognized with a 2023 Family Choice Award and will be available later this month.

Enjoy the Christmas holiday! Experience the peace and joy that God has offered you.

Brian