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DAYSTAR NEWS

02

Christmas & God's Great Plan
DR. DAVID JEREMIAH

03

Damaged But Not Destroyed
MIKE TODD

04

Looking Forward to 2024
JONI LAMB

I believe God led me to watch Daystar. Listening to Joni and the stories at the table has opened my heart to accept Jesus as my Savior! Thank you, Daystar! Keep doing what you're doing and may God bless you.

Lyn from New Jersey

CHRISTMAS & GOD'S GREAT PLAN

with Dr. David Jeremiah

This month people the world over will celebrate Christmas.

What does Christmas tell us about God's plan for humanity?

DJ: In the Bible Jesus tells us why He came. He said, "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). He came to be the Savior. I always tell people that He's the only person who was ever particularly born for the purpose of dying. He came for one reason—to die. And from the very beginning He set His face toward the cross. He came for unbelievers and for those of us who have accepted Christ. He said, "I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

Why did Jesus have to be born as a human?

DJ: Jesus became a man to fulfill prophecy. He said, "All things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me" (Luke 24:44). There are more than three hundred specific prophecies in the Hebrew Scriptures about the promised Messiah, and Jesus came to fulfill them. He became a man to reconcile the Father in heaven with his children on earth. So, there would be a bridge between us and the Lord. Jesus was God walking around in flesh and blood to show us who God was. Because of Him, we can see what God is like and understand Him more fully. At the same time, becoming human allowed Him to understand and sympathize with us in our trials. Finally, He became a man to secure our hope of heaven. Without His death, burial, and resurrection, we would not have the great gift of salvation.

What is the significance of Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Messiah?

DJ: Before Christ's birth, Bethlehem already had a surprisingly mixed legacy. Bethlehem is first mentioned in the Old Testament in connection with the birth of Jacob's son, Benjamin, and the death of Jacob's wife Rachel. Later we learn that Ruth moves there with her mother-in-law Naomi, which is where Ruth meets and marries Boaz. And then we find Bethlehem providing ancient Israel its most enduring hero—King David. Rachel, Ruth, and David are all part of Jesus' family tree. Because of this, Mary and Joseph were in Bethlehem for taxation purposes when Jesus was born, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Messiah's birthplace found in Micah 5:2: "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting." The Hebrew translation of Bethlehem means "house of bread," and Jesus came to be the "bread of life."

The Nativity story involves the presence of angels announcing the birth of Jesus. What is the significance of angelic involvement in the Christmas narrative, and how does it relate to our understanding of the divine intervention in human affairs?

DJ: Angels are God's messengers; they provide guidance with clear and specific instructions. As in the case of the angel Gabriel appearing to Mary, telling her that she would give birth to the Messiah and later an angel appearing to Joseph, telling him that the child conceived in Mary was of the Holy Spirit. God chose His messengers to communicate the coming of Christ to this earth. Angels also worship at the throne of God in heaven so why wouldn't He send them to worship at the birth of His Son—announcing that the Savior had been born and then celebrated His birth with a "heavenly host." Throughout Scripture angels are called upon to carry out important tasks in God's divine plan. Though we may not visibly see them, angels are constantly ministering between heaven and earth.

Are there any specific biblical passages or stories related to the birth of Jesus that you find particularly inspiring or thought-provoking during the Christmas season?

DJ: The whole story is inspiring, but two things come to mind. The first is all the prophecies in the Old Testament that point to Christ's birth. There are 316 of them, and Christ's birth and life fulfill them all. The second is how He chose to come in a borrowed manger attended by the lowliest of society. Kings came, but it was later. The first witnesses to Christ's coming were shepherds. This shows us that Christ is reaching out to all people.

What has been the most surprising thing you've learned while studying the Nativity?

DJ: That His first coming is just a glimpse of the hope we have for His second coming. While there are 316 prophecies of His first coming there are three times that many for His second coming. When Jesus comes again, it will be to take all believers home to be with Him forever. That is the true gift of the Nativity—He came once, and He will come again.

How can we ensure that Jesus remains at the heart of our Christmas celebrations amidst the distractions and secular aspects of the holiday?

DJ: I love the music of Christmas, and listening to Christmas carols about Christ's birth is a great way to keep Him at the forefront of my mind each December. Sometimes it's hard for us who are goal-oriented to slow down long enough to wonder about Christ's birth. But when we take some time during the Christmas season to ponder the real story of Christmas and interact with it so that it isn't just a familiar story we hear over and over again, we are able to focus on the birth of our Savior. And finally, we should rejoice in telling everyone that salvation has come to earth in the Person of Jesus Christ. Christmas is a wonderful time to share the Gospel with others as the birth of Christ comes up naturally in conversation. It's easy to miss Christmas in the midst of the distractions, but Jesus will remain at the heart of our celebrations when we take the time to stop and focus our mind on Him.

**"That is the true gift
of the Nativity—
He came once, and
He will come again."**

Hear more from Dr. Jeremiah on the hope of Christmas at Daystar.com/DavidJeremiah!

Damaged but not Destroyed

with Michael Todd

The lights of the city glow against the twilight sky as stars begin to peak through vast expanse of the coming night. A young woman pours coffee in a stranger's cup as she serves the patrons of the small diner. Deep within her lingers a desire to call home, but the chasm feels too wide to cross. It's been 12 years since she last spoke to anyone in her family. Now she battles with the shame of the life she lived after leaving home.

Hundreds of miles away, an old man sits in an empty hotel room clutching a Bible to his chest. This is his third trip into the city in two weeks. He looks out his window at the sign in front of the church across the street. It reads, "Abuse Survivors Support Group Meeting – 7 pm." Will today be the day he has the courage to go?

The hard truth is that most people will battle pain and shame. The enemy wants each of us to believe that we are alone, or that somehow it was our fault. **But Jesus came to break those chains and silence the lies of the enemy!**

In his new book *Damaged But Not Destroyed*, Pastor Mike Todd gives a vulnerable look into his own battles with feeling damaged and how God brought healing and freedom into his life! With stories about dealing with inadequacy, addiction, pride, and more, he offers a deep insight into the power of hurt, how to overcome it, and why God has purpose for your life.

It's time to shatter the shackles of shame and pain and let the Lord give you hope and a future through his transforming love! Bring home a copy of Mike Todd's book *Damaged But Not Destroyed* as a special thank you gift when you use the enclosed form to give to help Daystar shine the light of the Gospel all over the world! Help others find freedom and purpose as you step into yours and discover a brighter future today!



STAND WITH ISRAEL

We are living in perhaps one of the most important moments in history. In a shocking display of brutality, Hamas terrorists unleashed a wave of violence and terror against Israelis that included rape, taking hostages, and even the horrific murder of civilians including women and infants. When confronted with such atrocities, the world was faced with a choice – stand by while darkness runs rampant or stand up against it!

In unprecedented times like these, God calls the Church to step up in unprecedented ways, and thousands of Daystar partners all across the globe have stood with Israel. **Because of the generosity of people just like you**, we've been able to send funds to the Holy Land to provide **medical supplies and first aid kits to volunteers and first responders** in south Israel, **daily hot meals for thousands of soldiers and hurting families, provisions and water** to the hard



hit southern communities, funding for **activities and care for children** across the country that have lost family members or have had their parents called into the reserves, **250 bullet proof vests** for the special unit called in from the reserves to serve in the southern part of Israel, and funds for the Israel Allies Foundation to mobilize a massive **campaign to keep international political support** coming to Israel. And our previous 40 bomb shelters that partners have helped build over the last few years have been **helping protect vulnerable communities during these dangerous times.**



The situation in Israel changes daily, and there's still so much more to do. To stay up to date on the current news, see the latest in our on-the-ground response, and learn how you can get involved, visit

[DAYSTAR.COM/
ISRAELWAR](https://daystar.com/israelwar)



Hello, Daystar family!

'Tis the season for gathering together with loved ones to remember the true meaning of Christmas, and it's always a special time around here at Daystar. This time of year brings great opportunities to reach people and show the love of God in tenderness, beauty, and kindness.

One of the ways we like to share the Gospel in our local community is through our yearly Christmas lights presentation. We get so much great feedback from it each year, and through our nativity display, we get to share the story of the birth of Jesus with all those who visit. It's one of my favorite parts of how Daystar celebrates the holidays.

This season also offers us a moment to reflect on all God has done in 2023. We launched the Daystar Español network, an all-Spanish speaking platform dedicated to reaching the global Hispanic community. We also launched in HD on DirecTV, on SES 6 Satellite covering Latin America, and on Snehla and DEN in India, just to name a few. Plus, we've given millions of dollars to Israel to help in this time of crisis, and as more donations come in, we'll continue to send support as we stand with the Jewish people.

Joni Table Talk also saw a year of exciting growth! We've been broadcasting on CBS in 9 of the top 20 markets, including 4 of the top five – New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Dallas-Fort Worth. We've also enjoyed reaching audiences through A&E, FYI, Fox, Fox Business, Real America's Voice, and more.

Of course, it's been a blessed year for me personally with our family growing and also getting to marry my husband, Dr. Doug Weiss. I'm excited to see what this next year will hold, and I am looking forward to all the new memories we'll make together.

For this Christmas, we have some fun shows planned. You definitely want to tune in on December 19 for our *Ministry Now* holiday special, and I'm excited to share my *Table Talk* holiday special "A Very Joni Christmas" on December 22, with an encore presentation on Christmas Day!

Looking ahead to the New Year, I want you to know that we will continue to seek to reach more and more people with the Gospel, meeting them right where they are with compassion for what they are facing! I believe we are going to see many lives healed, restored, transformed, and set free in 2024. Thank you for continuing to stand with Daystar and have a very Merry Christmas!

Yours for Christian Television,

Joni Lamb
Co-Founder & President
Daystar Television Network

I love watching Daystar, it brings a beautiful atmosphere in my home. I'm blessed always with the powerful ministrations. Thank you! Thank you, Jesus!

Roselyn from Australia

Two days ago I became a Daystar partner in support of Israel. Today I was notified that an insurance bill I've been worrying about was paid in full! Praise God! God is great!

Eileen from Michigan

THIS MONTH

EVENTS

MINISTRY NOW

12/4 – SHAWN BOLZ

12/6 – KENNETH COPELAND

12/11 – JASON SOBEL

12/12 – JOYCE MEYER

12/18 – R.T. KENDALL

JONI TABLE TALK

DECEMBER 1

After Death

Don Piper and Stephen Gray

A tragic accident and an unforgettable journey into eternity! Don Piper and Stephen Gray talk about what lies beyond and the new documentary "After Death."

DECEMBER 22

A Very Joni Christmas

Deck the Halls and get ready to laugh and sing with Joni and friends as they celebrate the reason for the season with games and some special guest music you don't want to miss!

DECEMBER 29

Year In Review 2023

From powerful testimonies to buzzworthy topics, it's that time of year again where we countdown the top 10 Table Talks and look at some of the biggest moments and memories of 2023! Tune in to see if your favorite makes it to number 1!