

GRACE & PEACE to you from GOD our FATHER & our LORD JESUS CHRIST. We can REJOICE in the LORD (Phil. 4:4) & PRAISE HIM (Ps. 34:1) who came to earth that we might live. I just LOVE the CELEBRATION of CHRIST-mas & reflect that this is a time of not GIVING, but SAVING. Our LORD JESUS is the ultimate gift to ALL humanity. (Eph. 2:8; Acts 4:12). P.T.L.

2006 was one of my most fruitful years of ministering & harvesting souls (John. 6:44). GOD opened new doors to some penitentiaries & gave me the strength (Eph. 6:10) to do 294 services this year plus hours of counseling. There were over 4000 who invited JESUS CHRIST into their hearts as LORD & SAVIOR, or rededicated their lives to HIM. As I said last December, I PRAISE GOD that my passion to preach CHRIST CRUCIFIED (wherever HE sends me) increases each year along with a sense of URGENCY. Next Easter will be 25 years on Skid Row & 21 years in prison ministry. I give GOD ALL the HONOR, WORSHIP & GLORY.

December had some services cancelled because of the holidays & preparations for the big feedings. There were only 17 services but over 275 came forth.

This was also a time to get my energies charged up as I had ministered 117 services the past 4 months. I'll be battle ready for 2007 & raring to go.

The services at the Long Beach Rescue Mission, L.A. Mission, Union Rescue Mission, Fred Jordan Mission, L.A. Co. Jail, & Chino Women's Prison were all packed. I also had a blessed time ministering at the Full Gospel breakfast in Burbank. On December 10<sup>th</sup> I was a guest speaker for Pastor Angie & Mary Barajas at the Victory Outreach Church in Eagle Rock. It was 20 years ago that I preached for them when they had a church in Hollywood. This was such a blessed & fulfilling night in the LORD. I also did a service at the Dream Center for Brother Clayton whom I've known for 25 years. He runs the "Hope for Homeless Youth" where scores of young people addicted to drugs come to Jesus & live there. I took my daughters Nikol & Lea to Skid Row for many services when they were 10 & 13. They knew that I never drank nor took drugs & I always told them that unless they really got to know JESUS & follow HIM, it could happen to them. PRAISE GOD they never did. I sure did a lot of PRAYING.

Recently I finished writing a book of a "Father's Legacy" for Nikol & Lea. It

took quite a while but it was worth it. I remember playing with them & reading ìMary Had a Little Lamb.î It gave me a little devotional thought concerning the incarnation, which puts things in perspective regarding CHRIST-mas.

MARY HAD THE LITTLE LAMB ñ sublime simplicity. Couched in the words of a nursery rhyme is found the supreme fact of history. GOD stepped across the stars to visit the planet Earth, here to be born in an obscure village, Bethlehem; in an insignificant land ñ Israel.

MARY HAD THE LITTLE LAMB ñ profound complexity. That day a virgin gave birth & the eternal GOD was born. HE was to be called JESUS because HE would save HIS people from their sin. (Matt. 1:21) JESUS WAS THE ONLY ONE BORN FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF DYING. He was the ìLAMB slain from the foundation of the world.î (Rev. 13:8)

MARY HAD THE LITTLE LAMB ñ divine humility. GOD became a man, became a servant & died a criminalís death (Phil. 2:7-8). HE chose to come as a helpless infant, not some proud Roman or a stately Greek, but a peasant JEW. NOBODY can fathom such HUMILITY!

MARY HAD THE LITTLE LAMB ñ majestic mystery. The trip from Nazareth to Bethlehem was difficult, & in Maryís condition, intensified. GOD wanted HIS children there, so HE placed it into the heart of the Roman Emperor to pass a decree that everyone return to the city of their father to be taxed. BOTH Mary & Joseph were of the house & lineage of David & therefore, had to return to Bethlehem, the city of Davidís birth. This most certainly was done to underscore the fact that this CHILD was the legitimate KING of the JEWS & fulfilled messianic prophecy. (Mic. 5:2) Yes, it was mystifying that GOD made sure the KING was born in the KINGís city & the KINGís birth take place in a stable. The mystery is resolved because the Bible informs us that the inns in Bethlehem were all filled. The stable under the inn would be warm, with soft hay, & there would be the PRIVACY so needed at this time for them. But more than that, though the CHILD to be born was to be the KING of the Jews, HE was also to die for the sins of the world. JESUS was ìGODís LAMBî & if we think about it, what better place for a lamb to be born than in a stable. MARY HAD THE LITTLE LAMB, & because that HOLY CHILD was born, good will defeat evil; light will defeat darkness; truth will defeat error; life will defeat death; & JESUS crushed satan at the cross of Calvary. P.T.L.!!!

We must not think of CHRIST-mas or Easter once a year. We can PRAISE GOD DAILY for the eternal gift HE so graciously gave to us. This shows us how much GOD LOVES US (John 3:16; Jer. 31:3).

Until next year, 2007, the LORD BLESS YOU & to you who blessed me with  
LOVE offerings this year, I PRAISE HIM & THANK YOU. J

In His Majesty's Service,

**Mel Novak**