



Sermon Title: A Right-side Up Christmas in an Upside Down World

by: Pastor Blaine Workman

Scriptures:

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. [John 1: 1-5]

¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us... [John 1:11-14a]

1. John had an incredible story to tell men and women trapped in the Upside Down World. The **hope** of heaven's future deliverer was no longer just a **hope**. He was a very present reality. His name was Jesus.
2. A Right-side Up Christmas begins with the **whole** story of Jesus, and the **whole** story of Jesus begins "In the beginning."
3. His story must begin not with the simple Christ-child in **humble** estate, but with the eternally pre-existing **Word** in heaven's glory.
4. The notion of the logos (or Word) was pregnant with meaning in both Jewish and Greek thought, and He (the Holy Spirit) **inspired** John to use all of its rich meaning to convey the wonder of the **incarnation** to the whole world.
5. A Right-side Up Christmas recognizes that the humble babe wrapped in swaddling clothes was just a **touchable** version of the Eternal Word robed in **divine** glory.
6. "The Son of God became **man** to enable men to become the sons of God." [C.S. Lewis]
7. A Right-side Up Christmas is a wonderful **family** event! It's an occasion for the children of God to celebrate the Advent (the arrival) of the Son of God. Others may satisfy themselves with the trinkets of Christmas, but we rejoice in the **treasure** that is Christ.
8. We live in an Upside Down **World**, but a Right-side Up **Savior** lives in us.

Growth Group Questions
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KICK-OFF

1. Share some Thanksgiving memories from last week.
2. What are you looking forward to this Christmas?

THE GAME PLAN

1. What points from today's sermon challenged you, impacted you, or caught your attention and why?
2. In what ways were you personally impacted by Pastor Blaine's message today?
3. Share about a time when you had the opportunity to explain who Jesus is to someone that had never heard of Him before.

OVERTIME

1. The next time you have the opportunity to explain who Jesus is to someone that's never heard of Him before, how would you do that in one sentence?
2. Consider breaking into small groups and praying for unsaved family members that still need a divine encounter with the Word who became flesh.
3. Share about how your family likes to celebrate Christmas in an upside down world.

