

**Sermon Summary**  
**Christmas**  
**25<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

- The Christmas story marks the point at which God intervenes decisively in the affairs of the world.
- The OT records the story of the covenants between God and his people, and the failure of Israel to keep their part of the bargain at times.
- The prophetic and historical books all share this perspective, offering a theological reason, disobedience, for what befalls Israel.
- They make history a warning and call for change.
- In the Christmas story, God takes over the hard yards of the response to his invitation.
- God becomes man, and shows us how to live properly in relation to God.
- In so doing, he makes it possible for us to live properly with God, not because of our abilities, but because of his life and history.
- The Gospel writers all anchor this in history – at a time and a place recognisable as a distinct point by Pontius Pilate.
- At Christmas we give thanks for God's gift of Himself to us, and the opportunity this gives for us to live rightly with Him.

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