

A Christmas Message

The Minister's Study,
December 18, 1952.

Dear Friend(s):

Once again 'tis Christmastide, and one week from today we shall celebrate the coming of the Eternal God into our world in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ. It is right and fitting that Christmas Day should be marked by happy family gatherings, and by the giving and receiving of gifts; but in all the activity and excitement of the day let us not lose sight of its basic meaning

"On Christmas Day the Child was born,
On Christmas Day in the morning;
He trod the long way, lone and lorn,
He wore the bitter crown of thorn,
His hands and feet and heart were torn,
He died at last the Death of scorn.
But through His coming Death was slain
That you and I might live again.
For this the Child of the Maid was born,
On Christmas Day in the morning."

Mrs. Rogers joins me in extending sincere Christmas greetings. We do hope that this may be a very happy time for you all — a day that is "merry and bright." And may you be led to dedicate your life — to dedicate your life afresh, if need be — to the end that Christ be enthroned and His rule established, here and everywhere.

At this season of the year there are usually special services of one kind and another; that you may be familiar with this season's schedule I have listed them on the reverse side of this page. I hope that you will endeavour, as far as possible, to be present at these services; you will be helped yourself, and your presence will be an inspiration to others.

Our good friends, the Newberys, are especially in our minds at this season of the year. Many gifts have already been forwarded to them in Trinidad. Apart from these gifts, however, the church has what is known as the *Newbery Fund*. This fund needs to be built up without delay, for several years have passed since any appeal was made for its support. (When the last appeal was made it was known as the Webster Fund.) The Official Board has directed, therefore, that a special envelope be distributed for the purpose of receiving donations to the Newbery Fund on Christmas Sunday. (Cheques should be made out to The Treasurer, Mr. N. R. Jackman.) An envelope is enclosed herewith. You are invited to return it next Sunday; if, due to heavy mails at this season of the year, you do not receive this envelope until next week, you are asked to return it the following Sunday. Through this fund we hope to render further assistance to the Newberys in their great work.

Again, sincere best wishes for a joyous Christmas, and, let me add, for a happy New Year.

Yours faithfully,

A. Allison Rogers

(See Reverse Side)

