**Answer 25 of the 1st 2nd 3rd RUTC:**

**Merry Christmas of 24, 25, Eternity (Luke 2:10-14) 12/24/2023**

When you greet someone with “Merry Christmas,” “merry” means “joy, happiness” and “Christmas” means “to worship Christ.” If you put them together, it means “Let us worship Christ in joyful spirit.”

Adding 24, 25, and eternity to that creates a greater meaning. 24 represents our daily lives. It means to live our everyday lives looking to Christ in joyful, happy and thankful heart. 25 is a time of crises and despair. Even then, we must look to Christ and have a joyful, happy, and thankful heart. That is when God will change everything into absolute blessings and answers.

Why eternity? When we go before God, we will live in joy of Christ for eternity (Revelation 8:9-12).

**Some people say Christ was not born on December 25th.** Even if he wasn’t, it does not matter. To be happy and celebrate just that one day is meaningless. We must be joyful, happy and thankful for Christ for 24, 25, and eternity.

**Why is that? It is because of the three reasons for which Christ came down. Angels call this the great joyful news, thus, the gospel (10).**

**1. He came as the savior of all life’s problems that mankind cannot solve (11).**

No matter how much we live in kindness, we cannot solve this problem. That is why God sent His own son.

**1) What is that problem? There are three curses, like destiny, that we cannot escape.** It is the curse of original sin (Romans 5:12), curse of Satan (John 8:44, Acts 10:38), and eternal curse (Hebrews 9:27). Due to the fall of the first life, Adam, all life is born with a sinful nature and continues to sin throughout life (Romans 3:10). A life that has not met God belongs to Satan and is continuously oppressed. That curse is passed down to the next generation (generational inheritance), and that life will face eternal judgment of hell.

**2) With three authorities, Christ finished these three curses.** **That is called salvation.**

**① With the authority of the Priest, he died on the cross and finished all sin and curses (Romans 8:1-2, Colossians 1:13-14).** We are no longer sinners but we have become righteous before God (Romans 3:24). We can now enjoy God’s blessings for eternity.

**② With the authority of the King, he crushed the head of Satan as he resurrected (Genesis 3:15). He finished the work of the devil (1John 3:8).** Even if the devil attacks us with our weaknesses and scars, we can fight and overcome with the name of Christ.

**③ With the authority of the Prophet, He became the way to meet God. He became our eternal way (John 14:6, Revelation 3:8).** To take responsibility for our future, posterity, and eternity, He is with us by the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:22-23, John 14:16-18).

**3) He has given us this blessing unconditionally by grace. That is why we call salvation the gift of grace (Ephesians 2:8-9).**

**① We receive that grace and love given freely to us in thanksgiving, and we can live in gratitude of that grace and love.** Living with that thanksgiving for 24, 25, and eternity is true faith in God and is true worship (Psalm 50:23).

**② That is where humbleness comes from (1Corinthians 30:31), and we can extend that grace and love to help, save, and devote to others.** Only those who are free can choose to live in servitude (life of servant), and even from the lowest place, God will raise them up.

**③ Satan may attack us again to bring us various problems, failures, and tribulations. All we need are these 5 assurances.** Assurance of salvation (1John 5:11-12), assurance of answers to prayer (John 14:14), assurance of forgiveness (1John 1:9), assurance of victory (1Corinthians 10:19), and assurance of guidance (Proverbs 3:4-5). Based on these 5 assurances, we see the 7 guide signs.

**2. He became the Lord of our saved lives (11 end).**

There are at least three meanings when we say He became the master of our lives.

**1) It is God’s original role (Sovereignty). He was the creator, and everything comes from him (Romans 11:36).** When we believe in this, we can have courage and devote ourselves. Even when the world says it is impossible, if God allows it, it will happen (Revelation 3:7). With the things that God has given us, we give offering and devotion. It will come back as greater answers.

**2) The one who became our Lord will take responsibility of our lives.** No one – not parents nor ourselves – can take responsibility for our lives. Our lives are full of scars and limitations. Evil spirits will continue to create evil things. Only Christ will become our Lord and take responsibility for everything (mystery of the wedding party in John 2).

**3) Therefore, we are living the life that He has promised, He has prepared, and He will bless (covenant journey).** We have been chosen by grace and are living in this age as the remained people of God (Romans 11:5). We call that the remnants. Even in problems, we can enjoy the deep things of God through prayer (1Corinthians 2:10-12). We call that the pilgrims. We will stand as the ones to overcome, conquer, and save the world. We call that the evangelists.

**3.** **There is a last blessing that the Lord gives us. As we enjoy the two blessings mentioned above, we will also enjoy the blessing of saving the world and the future.** “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” (14).

**1) The moment we accepted this Christ, received salvation and became God’s child, we were given this glory.**

**① Suffering, war, and darkness continues on earth, but we are the ones who will deliver heavenly glory (Isaiah 60:1-2).** This is the blessing of an evangelist and the blessing of evangelism and missions that will save 5000 people groups. We will stand as witnesses.

**② That is why what we need is strength from God. Through prayer, we can realistically enjoy the strength from our glorious God.** That is the 7 absolute power, bartizan of prayer. (Power is deeply enjoying the triune God. That is when the heavenly army of angels are mobilized and the work of transcending time and space arise. We can save the crumbling 3 ages. With this power, we can fight and overcome Satan who controls the kingdom of the air. It is the 5 powers that will save 5000 people groups and 237 nations. With this power, we can see and enjoy the future in advance and challenge. It is the power to restore the true church that establishes the 3 courtyards (multiethnic, remnant, healing ministries).

**2) At this moment, true peace that everyone and the world desires will be fulfilled on earth.**

**① There will be peace within us. It is the blessing of God’s kingdom that will come upon us (Romans 14:17).**

**② There will be peace within the people you meet. It is the blessing of God’s kingdom that will come upon the people you meet (Ephesians 2:14).**

**③ There will come a day where peace will be upon the entire world. That is world evangelism, and. The blessing of eternal God’s kingdom (Revelation 8:9-10).**

**Conclusion –** God wants us to enjoy this blessing, and He wants us to save others, the world, and this age to prepare for eternal blessings. Hold onto the three reasons why Christ came, and be joyful and thankful 24, 25, and eternally. This is the blessing of true merry Christmas.