Jesus says He Loves Me!

Monday morning when I sat down to start writing this testimony, this was my first draft.

"As I bow down to pray,
Lord give me a way
to make these words sound better".
Starting your week with your prayer being the
chorus of a Maida song will wake you up!

Jesus Loves Me!

My Mother would say I am "Reckless".

Jesus says He Loves Me!

My Dad would say I am "Fearless".

Jesus would say He Loves Me!

My Heavenly FATHER would <u>sadly</u> say I am "Rebellious".

My Heavenly FATHER says He Loves Me!

My Wife would say I am "Devoted".

Jesus says He "Deoted" to me!

My Boss would say ia m "Loyal".

Jesus says He is Loyal to Me!

My Army friends would say I am "Airborne".

Jesus says I am "Born-again"!

Jesus loves Me!

This Advent "thing" how do I <u>make it</u> Alive? How do I <u>Experience</u> it?

I can Light my little Candle.

Could You Light your Candle too?

My King came to Me!

My Attitude equals Expectant of HIM.

My Attitude is Anticipating Him.

My Goal is Participating in His Life.

No one can do this for you.

Wilmer John No one can do this for you.

Advent = Always be Watching!
I am looking back to my savior's birth
I am looking forward to His second coming.

I am living just like a Hebrew slave in Egypt.
I am remembering Jesus' 1st coming.
I am looking forward to my deliverers entrance at his second coming.

Jesus loves me.
Jesus is coming back for me.

Why did the Magi come?

Why did God send the three Kings?
What is that it God was trying to illustrate with these 3 Kings?

Why 3? What do you think?

Is it, <u>The 3 kings</u> come to a man?

Is One <u>The Father</u>, One <u>The Holy Spirit</u>,

and the other one is The <u>One The Son</u>?

Is that it?

Or ia it The King comes to Man? The King comes into Mankind? The King becomes one of us.

My King loves me enough to become one with me.

Why "a stable"?

Why there?
Is it The King comes to His "Creation"?
He did made the Animals 1st!
So, Does Jesus redeems His Creation:
His animals first?

Future Glory Rom 8:18-25

What we are suffering now is nothing compared with the glory that will be shown in us.

Everything God created looks forward to the time when his children will appear in their full and final glory. The created world was bound to fail.

But that was not the result of its own choice.

Adam was the One who made it this way.

God planned to set the created world free. He didn't want it to rot away completely.

Instead, he wanted it to have the same glorious freedom that his children have.

We know that all that God's creation has been groaning.

It is in pain as if it were giving birth to a child.

The created world continues to groan even now.

And that's not all.

We have the Holy Spirit as the promise of future blessing.

But we also groan inside ourselves as we look forward to the time when God will adopt us as full members of his family.

Then he will give us everything he has for us.

He will raise our bodies and give glory to them.

That's the hope we had when we were saved.

We hope for what we don't have yet. So we are patient as we wait for it.

How can I make this "Real" for Me? How can I "experience" this?

It is one thing to "watch" a Bears game on a big good TV.

It is something VERY different to "Be There".

"I don't wanna be the guy just and watching, I wanna be the guy experiencing."

Saint Frances wanted to personally experience it; to live it.

When I was a young 30 ish new believer I had breakfast one morning with R.C. Sproul. I told him.

"all the church people I've known were faking it".

Who is a good example for me to look to for someone who lived It?

R C said look two Saint Frances.

So

I had Eve and Julie do my pre-reading for me. Saint Frances lived an amazing new life.

It was in 1219 AD during the <u>fifth</u> crusade to the holy land.

St. Frances walked "fearlessly" into the camp of all of the Muslims!
He greeted the Sultan with,
"May the Lord give you peace".

Would you walk into a Taliban camp today?

The Christians and Muslims are still fighting for this same dirt!

What if; that's where all this starts it's with my lighting of my 1st candle = Peace.

"May the Lord give you peace" give me His peace.

Saint Frances lived with the Muslims for a year!
He was captivated by their prayer times.
Their discipline, and their devotion to their god.

What if; that's My 2nd step. Our 2nd step.
What if; that's it; A Prayer "pattern" of Hope,
Just Lighting my little second candle of Hope.
"My hope is in Christ alone, is love for me.
What if; I just hope 4 more of him?

Saint Frances wanted to experience it.
So, in the 1300 he constructed the first living nativity in a cave.

Think about that; we Christians are 1300 years into this thing when we have our first reenactment of the nativity!

That night's experience changed his life and many others as well.

They experienced a deep JOY that dark night

I wonder; how can me Lighting My little 3rd candle of Joy in my advent wreath on the kitchen table help get me to experience This joy also?

Life seems so hard.
The dark nights are so long.
How does one look or joy?
Who does one look to for their joy?
If, Jesus loves Me,
the next fruit of our love relationship is joy.
The fruit of His holy spirit in me is love, joy, and peace.

Is that it; the hope of advent is the fruit of the holy spirit in me, in us?

This is what I remember being taught when I was young: "Jesus HUMBLE" birth was as our savior. Him coming to earth is to save us from our sin.

Do You know Jesus as our savior? Jesus came to save. Jesus came to save you; and me also.

As I remember it today, they told me the three wise man, the Magi came to pay respects to the newborn King.

And the timing of the Magi's arrival was at the birth of Jesus that night.

The concept of incarnation was a "<u>negative</u>" thing

it is the <u>solution</u> to <u>pay back</u> the sins of Adam and Eve.

Jesus coming was a problem solving event.
That way of thinking is focused on
Me and My need our needs.

It is very true that mankind did, we do, I do, need a Savior to deliver them the results of Sin.

Jesus is saving me from sin.

Is Jesus saving you, changing you too?

It is also true that this baby born of a virgin girl is The Savior of all mankind
He is Jesus Christ the Lord.

This Jesus loves us.
This Jesus loves you.
Jesus can love even me.

This way of thinking is focused on Me and My need or needs.

What if?

The incarnation is the "completion" of God's intention for his creation.

What if?

The incarnation took place as a "positive" demonstration of God's love.

The birth of Jesus in the humble stable illustrates God's intent to bend down and left up His creation to its intended Glory.

Everything God created looks forward to the time when his children will appear in their full and final glory.

Jesus loves us.

What if?

The incarnation is the way
God always intended it to be
God in mankind and living as one.
God inside of mankind.
God and mankind walking in oneness.
An intimate personal love relationship.
Is that what is 1st on your Christmas list?

My 4th and last candle in my little Advent wreath is the candle that "symbolizes" Love.

When all four candles are lit it gives a of lite to my living space.

What if?

This is how it is supposed to work? This is the pattern?

I am looking back to the fact of, the truth of my savior's birth.

I am looking forward to His second coming.

My King is coming for Me!

My Attitude is Expectant of HIM.

My Attitude is Anticipating Him.

My Goal is Participating in His Life.

No one can do this for you.

Wilmer John No one can do this for you.

Jesus loves me. Jesus loves you.

Jesus is coming back for me and for you.

If that is true?

That is very exciting!

The King of Kings and Lord of Lords!

Loves Us!

Loves Me.

Jesus can save us!

Jesus can save us from sin,

Save us from ourselves.