



FROM
TONY'S
HEART TO
YOURS

The *King* Came:
The *Kings* are coming:
The *King* is coming back

As increasing fear grips the world and uncertainty plagues the hearts of many it is important that we hear a different voice of faith and certainty.

With Christmas fast approaching it is my desire to inspire you to remember the great hope that we celebrate because of what this season means to us.

Five years ago I wrote the Christmas article for AC talk called "It's the most wonderful time of the year". This year I am including in this article some of the same text as I want to encourage us to hear Christmas Carols this year with Kingdom ears.

The King Came:

As we remember the birth of our Savior, we reflect on the truth that in the manger not only a baby was born but a baby who would grow to be King. He would rule a kingdom that would manifest from the inside out not so much from the outside in. His life and destiny was probably never expressed more clearly than it was in the wonderful carol that Charles Wesley wrote:

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die
Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"*

What a joy it is to reflect on who we have become in Him and to give His kingdom rule total freedom in our lives.

The kings are coming:

In our Leadershift gatherings this year we focused on the theme of "the kings are coming" from the Scripture in Isaiah. One of the questions often asked is, if we are winning and the kingdom is advancing why is there so much darkness on the earth? The Scripture answers this in these verses when it declares that we are to rise and shine for our light has come and kings will come to the brightness of the rising, at the same time darkness, even extreme darkness, will cover the earth. We are living in the battle of the kingdoms.

Within the first two years of Jesus' birth in a time of great darkness, kings came to the newborn King opening their treasures to him. As we rise in this day and His glory is seen upon us we will continue to see kings and rulers coming to the brightness of the rising. As men reach out for answers, let us not only be bold in declaration of truth, but live value based Christianity that demonstrates the ways of our King, then we will be the answer. A carol said it this way:

*Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to rein*

The King is coming back:

The great news of Christmas is not only the King was born, who has given new birth to those who believe to rule and reign on this earth, but that He, the King, is coming again!

Another great carol, "It Came upon a Midnight Clear", was written by Edmund Hamilton Sears in 1849. The carol started life as a poem written by its author who was a minister living in Massachusetts at the time. What great words make up the last verse:

*For lo! the days are hastening on,
 By prophets seen of old,
 When with the ever-circling years
 Shall come the time foretold,
 When the new heaven and earth shall own
 The Prince of Peace, their King,
 And the whole world send back the song
 Which now the angels sing.*

As you celebrate Christmas, whether in sun or snow, continue to allow the truth that the babe born in a manger was born to be King and His Kingdom rule is forever increasing on the earth.

The prophets are prophesying that in this Jewish year of 5776 or what the Israelis call Ayin Vav, is the year where we will see heaven invade earth at an unprecedented level with the most powerful force in the universe... LOVE. Ayin meaning "seeing" and Vav, "the connector", where we will see the connection made between Heaven and Earth.



TONY & MARILYN FITZGERALD

May it be so in your lives, families and ministries as we continue to pray and believe the prayer Jesus asked us to pray, "Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

From the Apostolic Council we pray that you have a blessed Christmas season and we believe with you for a great hope to fill your heart and that you approach 2016 totally aligned in His Kingdom.

Tony

COTN EVENTS 2016	DATE
COTN LEADERSHIFT SA, Durbanville	14-17 APRIL 2016
COTN DAY OF PRAYER	11 SEPTEMBER 2016
COTN LEADERSHIFT CANADA, Calgary	29 SEPT -2 OCT 2016

For any comments, suggestions and news,
 please do not hesitate to contact the
 COTN Virtual Resource Centre at communication@cotn.org

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