

# Kingdom thoughts

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe. Hebrews 12:28

**BMI Devotional** December 2014

## O Night Divine

It is Christmas time again! Many are excited, perhaps at the thoughts of gifts, family, food, holidays or whatever. Others spurn the whole idea, believing it is built upon a pagan festival.

But whatever our particular perspective Christmas is the time we particularly remember the Incarnation — the coming of God amongst us in the person of Jesus Christ.

This year I have been impressed by three words from the Christmas carol *O Holy Night*: O NIGHT DIVINE.

So often many of us read or sing words and only occasionally stop to consider their meaning or significance. I certainly fit into that category! So it was that the Lord impressed those words upon me.

It truly was a night divine; THE night when God was 'born' amongst man! What an incredible thought that at a moment in time, in physical reality, God became man. Paul records this idea beautifully in Galatians:

*But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

*Galatians 4:4-5*

So now I sing that carol with some passion. O night divine — that defining moment when Jesus became flesh and dwelt amongst us, not just so we could sing 'Silent Night', but that the world could come to know her king and Saviour.

I trust this Christmas that you will take the might, power and significance of this season and live it out for the glory of that babe, the saviour of the world. Could there be a greater reason to rejoice and celebrate?

Next Sunday, and particularly if you have a Christmas day service, participate with enthusiasm. Praise our saviour and sing 'glory to the new born king'!

'Joy to the World, the Lord is come, let earth receive her king!'

*Peter Frogley*

### O Holy Night

*Placide Cappeau and John S. Dwight*

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining  
It is the night of our dear Saviour's birth  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn  
Fall on your knees, O hear the angels' voices  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born

Truly He taught us to love one another  
His law is love and His gospel is peace  
Chains He shall break for the slave is our brother  
And in His name, all oppression shall cease

Sweet hymns of joy, in grateful chorus raise we  
With all our hearts, we praise His holy name  
Christ is the Lord and we shall ever praise Thee  
His power and glory ever more proclaim  
O night divine O night when Christ was born

Fall on your knees, O hear the angels' voices  
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born

