

ELPS Second Grade Ms. Brunner's Class

Dear Santa,

I want a lazer because I've never got one before. I want some legos, and a go-cart, and a Nintendo 64. Hi Mrs. Claus! How is Santa doing? How are the reindeer? How is it in the North Pole? I'm going to leave some cookies on my table and some milk and you, Santa.

Efrain Mendoza

Dear Santa,

I want a ring, CD player and jewelry for Christmas. How are you and Mrs. Claus doing? How is it in the North Pole? I would like to go over there. How is Rudolph doing?

Kimberly Torres

Dear Santa,

I want a fishing pole, a lizard a Nintendo 64. Santa, how is Rudolph and the others? How is Mrs. Claus? How are the elves. I saw you on tv. I have been a good boy. I do believe in Santa. My friends don't. Thanks for the toys.

Your friend, LaRoy Spears

The Birth of Christ

Rev. Obie Rhodes, Pastor White Cloud Baptist Church

The Birth Of Christ — Luke 2:7-13

7 And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

The Birth Of Christ

The fullness of time was now come, when God would send forth his Son, made of a woman, and made under the law; and it was foretold that He should be born at Bethlehem. Now here we have an account of the time, place and manner of it.

1. The time when our Lord Jesus was born. Several things may be gathered out of these verses which intimate to us that it was the proper time.

1. He was born at the time when the fourth monarchy was in its height, just when it was become, more than any of the three before it, a universal monarchy. He was born in the days of Augustus Caesar, when the Roman empire extended itself further than ever before or since, including Parthia one way, and Britain another way; so that it was then called Terrarum orbis imperium — The empire of the whole earth; and here that empire is called all the world (v. 1), for there was scarcely any part of the world, but what was dependent on it. Now this was the time when the Messiah was to be born, according to Daniel's prophecy (Dan. 2:44): In the days of these kings, the kings of the fourth monarchy, shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed.

2. He was born when Judea was become a province of the empire, and tributary to it; as appears evidently by this, that when all the Roman empire was taxed, the Jews were taxed among the rest. Jerusalem was taken by Pompey the Roman general, about 60 years before this, who granted the government of the church to Hyrcanus, but not the government of the state; by degrees it was more and more reduced, till now at length it was quite subdued; for Judea was ruled by Cyrenius the Roman governor of Syria (v. 2); the Roman writers call him Sulpitius Quirinus. Now just at this juncture, the Messiah was to be born, for so was dying Jacob's prophecy, that Shiloh should come when the sceptre was departed from Judah, and the lawgiver from between his feet, (Gen. 49:10). This was the first taxing that was made in Judea, the first badge of their servitude; therefore now Shiloh must come, to set up His kingdom.

3. There is another circumstance, as to the time, implied in this general enrollment of all the subjects of the empire, which is, that there was now universal peace in the empire. The temple of Janus was now shut, which it never used to be if any wars were on foot; and now it was fit for the Prince

of Peace to be born, in whose days swords should be beaten into ploughshares.

II. The place where our Lord Jesus was born is very observable. He was born at Bethlehem; so it was foretold (Mic. 5:2); the scribes so understood it (Mt. 2:5-6), so did the common people, (Jn. 7:42). The name of the place was significant. Bethlehem signifies the house of bread; a proper place for Him to be born in who is the Bread of life, the Bread that came down from heaven. But that was not all; Bethlehem was the city of David, where He was born, and therefore there He must be born who was the Son of David. Zion was also called the city of David (2 Sam. 5:7); yet Christ was not born there; for Bethlehem was that city of David where He was born in meanness, to be a shepherd; and this our Saviour, when He humbled himself, chose for the place of His birth; not Zion, where He ruled in power and prosperity, that was to be a type of the church of Christ, that mount Zion. Now when the virgin Mary was with child, and near her time, Providence so ordered it that, by order from the emperor, all the subjects of the Roman empire were to be taxed; that is, they were given in their names to the proper officers, and they were to be registered and enrolled, according to their families, which is the proper signification of the word here used; their being taxed was but secondary. It is supposed that they made profession of subjection to the Roman empire, either by some set form of words, at least by payment of some small tribute, a penny suppose, in token of their allegiance, like a man's turning tenant. Thus are they vassals upon record, and may thank themselves.

According to this decree, the Jews (who were now nice in distinguishing their tribes and families) provided that in their enrollments particular care should be had to preserve the memory of them. Thus foolishly are they solicitous to save the shadow, when they had lost the substance.

That which Augustus designed was either to gratify his pride in knowing the numbers of his people, and proclaiming it to the world, or he did it in policy, to strengthen his interest, and make his government appear the more formidable; but Providence had another reach in it. All the world shall be at the trouble of being enrolled, only that Joseph and Mary may. This brought them up from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judea, because they were of the stock and lineage of David (v. 4-5); and perhaps, being poor and low, they thought the royalty of their extraction rather than a burden and expense to them than a matter of pride. Because it is difficult to suppose that every Jew (women as well as men) was obliged to repair to the city of which their ancestors were, and there be enrolled, now, at a time when they kept not to the bounds of their tribes, as formerly, it may be offered as a conjecture that this great exactness was used only with the family of David, concerning which, it is probable, the emperor gave particular orders, it having been the royal family, and still talked of as designed to be so, that he might know its number and strength. Divers ends of Providence (See Birth of Christ, Page 15)

Dear Santa,

I want Legos, a brown Hornet and computer for Christmas. How are your elves? Santa how is Rudolph? I am getting some cookies for you.

Your friend,
Isaac Rangel

Dear Santa,

I want a computer, a cd player, and clothes for Christmas. How is Mrs. Claus? Is the North Pole cold? I've been good in school. My conduct was an E. How is the reindeer? Tell Mrs. Claus I said hi.

Dominique Tillman

Ms. Fowler's Class

Dear Santa,

Is it cold up there? How is it up there? I hope you're not cold. I want a race car and that's all. I will have cookies and milk for you.

Love,
Jesse Castillo

Dear Santa,

How are you? I am fine. Please come to my house. I have some cookies and milk for you. Please give my whole family a present and even the pets. Be very careful the bird might bite you.

Love Your Friend,
Alejandra Cano

Dear Santa,

Can you come to my house? I would like some new clothes for Christmas. Could you bring us a Christmas Tree? I would really like a bike.

Love,
Joy Morales

Dear Santa,

Please can you come to my house? I have alot of cookies and milk. Please can you bring my niece a crib? Please bring me a bell, a remote control car and a puppy and a kitten.

Love, Rodolfo

Dear Santa,

You are a very nice man. For Christmas I want a Nintendo 64, a game boy, a Sega, and a Play Station, and a starter jacket, a whrestling giga pet, a regular Nentento, and a Gold-berg shirt. I'll have milk and cookies for you. Tell Hi to Ms. Claus

Love,
Le'Trea Lowe

Dear Old Saint Nick,

For christmas I will like a Beast-war, Manterray and the RugRats movie. I will like a singing Tommy. I will like one thing, a toy monster. And for all you have done I will give you cookies and milk.

Love,
Garreth Casper

Dear Santa,

I want a bike, football games, football and a puppy. I want a belt off of the sled and also I want a fish. I want a bird and I want to have a toy car. If you come to my house I will give you a whole jar of cookies and a whole jar of milk.

Love,
Alcario Barrios

Dear Santa Claus,

For Christmas I want a play station and finger nail fun. My mom and dad are giving some gifts to me. I can not wait for Christmas. I want one more thing for Christmas, a Barbie Jeep. I love Barbie Jeeps. And I want a kiss from mom and dad.

Love,
Lakeisha Johnson

Dear Santa,

For Christmas I want a Nintendo 64, and some roller skates. I want a back crushin wrestler. I want a jersey. But please can you get me all of this? Do not get stuck in the chimney. We have cookies for you. Watch out for the dogs. The End.

Love,
Donivon Parker

Dear Santa,

I want a Nintendo 64, and I want a Super Nintendo too. I want a bike and to have a new toy car. Love you Santa and I like you Santa.

Love, Jessie T

Dear Santa,

I hope you don't get sick. I will like a Barbie doll jeep and a bike. I hope you won't get lost when you get there I will give you milk and cookies.

Love, Joslyn Stovall

Dear Santa Claus,

Come to my house how are you Santa? Give every a present. Give me a Barbie. Give my sister a doll. I will give you a lots of cookies.

Love, Krupa Hajari
and Santa Claus

Dear Mr. C,

I want a Play Station and a dog, a cat, and a fish away from the cat. How is Mrs. Santa. See you at Christmas Day.

Love, Angelo Gonzales

ELPS Third Grade Mrs. Moody's Class

Dear Santa,

Hi my name is Stephanie Castillo. Thank you for the piano that you gave me. I really like it a lot. I hope what I want this year is not too much to ask. What I want is a Spice Girl doll and a Spice Girl CD. Th doll can be Sporty of Emma. I don't have a chimney so I will leave the front door open. My mom wants a ring and my dad wants some boots. I am going to give you some milk and cookies.

Your friend,
Stephanie Castillo

Dear Santa,

How is Mrs. Claus doing? Thank you for the gifts last year. Are your friends the elves working hard? For Christmas I want a Play Station and a Spice Girl Play Station game.

Your friend,
Samantha Castro

Dear Santa,

How are you? My name is Juanisha. Thank you for the bike. How is Mrs. Santa? How are the reindeer? Did you know I have a sister name Ashley Rene Cooper? She is a nice little girl. But, sometimes she is not. Do you sleep in bed? Are you happy? I want a singing Tommy, Baby Dill, Furly, Bubba, Babe, skates, Mickey, Clueless, Spice Girl, Rugrats, nail. My brother wants a NFL Blitz.

Your friend,
Juanisha Cooper

Dear Santa,

How is Miss Claus? How are the elves? Thank you for the presents. I Can't wait for Christmas to come. I love Christmas.

What I want for Christmas is a bike and Nail Salon, Tweety chair, Tweety sleeping bag, Taz sleeping bag, Arts Parklers, clothes and shoes, Spice Girl sound stag.

Your friend,
Jenny Fields

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is D'Nitria Fuller. Thank you for the presents you brought me last Christmas. I want a Nail Salon, Baskin 31 Robbins, pound puppy, Talk girl, spice girl sound stage and shoes. And for my mom a car, brother wants a bike, an my dad wants a Jeep, a red one too. Santa how are the reindeer dong and the elves too? Are they working very hard? And how is Mrs. Santa Claus doing in the North Pole? It is very very very cold at the North Pole. I like your big red clothes.

Your friend,
D'Nitria Fuller

Dear Santa,

Hi, My name is Jessie. Thank you for the gift from last year. How is Rudolph? What are you doing? How are the reindeer? I want a play station, a basketball with a goal, WCW toy ring, Toy Story the movie, Angelica The Rugrats movie with sing a long Tommy, Team Concepts, a bug life radio, Spider man Philips magnavox.

Your friend,
Jessie Hancock

Dear Santa,

Hello. How are you doing? How is Miss Claus doing? Your elves work really hard. Is it cold over there I want a Nintendo 64 with WCW vs NWO revenge, a playstation with all crash games, 007, a BeBe gun, NWO nitro WWF in your house, twisted metal 2 and 3, a Go-Cart, a low rider bike and spyro too.

Your friend,
Michael Hernandez

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is Ernest Lemons. Thank you for my gifts last year. Santa, how is Rudolph and Mrs. Claus Are they doing all right?

Is Rudolph going to guide your sleigh on Christmas? I will leave you some milk, cookies and carrots. Santa, I want a Mountain bike for Christmas and I want a fun kart and a WCW ring, a NFL Blitz, a Blue controller on Nintendo 64. I want WWF in the Ring, Step into the King for some slam action, a NFL Pro Line team replica helmets, and a trampoline.

I want a Chevrolet and Michael Jordan metal cards.

Your friend, Ernest Lemons

Dear Santa,

Hi. My name is Jasmine Reggins, How are you and the elves and reindeer doing? Tell them and Mrs. Santa I said hello. Thank you for the gifts from last year. My mom and dad said hello, too. I want a spice girl sound stage and a gameboy.

Your friend,
Jasmine Reggins



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From Your Friends At
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Happy Holidays
To all our cherished friends and customers.
We truly appreciate your business.
Lake Oil Company



Peace and Love
Imagine a world as peaceful as our Creator intended it to be, and as full of love as the heart of our Saviour. In that spirit we offer you our best wishes for a Christmas filled with joy.

Dulany Funeral Home
Larry & Lana Dulany & Family



We're Gearing Up For Another Great Season!
Hope your Christmas runs smoothly in every way.
We're always glad to be of service.

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May your Christmas be furnished with happiness. Warm wishes from our family to yours.

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