

**“Merry CHRISTmas, Happy HOLYdays, & SAVIOR’s Greetings”**

**#2: Happy HOLYdays (Luke 1:26-58)**

**Dr. Rick Stedman – 12/12/21**

**How does CHRISTmas teach the holiness and reality of God?**

**1. “God” (26)**

- A supernatural, supreme being exists. (Genesis 1:1)

**2. “God sent.” (26)**

- The supernatural, supreme being is interested and involved in human history. (2 Kings 6:15-19)

**3. “The angel Gabriel.” (26)**

- Supernatural beings with specific identities exist in the supernatural and natural realms. (Ephesians 6:10-12)

**4. “You have found favor with God.” (30)**

- The supernatural, supreme being has opinions of favor or disfavor about individual humans. (Mt 25:21, 23, 26; Rev 20:11-15)

**5. “The holy one to be born.” (35)**

- When the supernatural, supreme being appears or acts in history, that’s known as holy.
  - “Holy” < (old English) *halig* = sacred, whole.
  - Exodus 3:5 - “The place where you are standing is holy ground” (Because God is present).
  - Anything involving God becomes holy. (Ex 26:33; Num 4:15)
  - God is the “Holy One of Israel.” (Isaiah 6:3; 10:20)

**6. “The Holy Spirit will come upon you.” (35)**

- In the NT, the holiness no longer is in places or things, but God dwells in His people by the Holy Spirit!
  - Thus, Christians are called *hagioi* = holy ones, saints. (We are holy because the Holy One lives in us.)
  - Thus, all days can be called holy-days.

*For me, will life be a series of holidays,  
or a series of holy-days?*

# A BASIC CHOICE OF WORLD-VIEWS

## 2 very different views of all reality:

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| 1. There is only one realm of reality: nature.  | 1. There are 2 realms of reality: nature and the supernatural.               |
| 2. There are no supernatural beings that exist.   | 2. There are supernatural beings that exist.                                 |
| 3. No supreme supernatural being exists (there is no God.)                                | 3. The supreme supernatural being, the Creator of all reality, exists (God). |
| 4. There are no moral absolutes; right and wrong are social, human, temporary constructs. | 4. This God is a personal with moral/ethical views.                          |
| 5. There is no purpose or reason for existence; life is an accident.                      | 5. This God created life for a purpose - a relationship with Him.            |
| 6. There is nothing holy and sacred; all is ordinary and profane.                         | 6. When humans relate with God, they encounter - the Holy.                   |
| 7. Life is a meaningless game; a series of holi-days.                                     | 7. Life is a meaningful relationship with God; a series of Holy-days.        |