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Message Info

Title:

Unstoppable Christmas

Speaker:

Peter Privitera

Date:

December 24, 2023

Scriptures:

Revelation 12:1-6

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Theme: May unstoppable Christmas well up as unstoppable joy.

Introduction: Some things in life exude such power—like a tsunami wave—that we rightly label them *unstoppable*. But no matter the power that we witness in nature, or by human hands, nothing compares to the one truly unstoppable force in the universe: the will of God. And few things demonstrate that power as clearly as what we celebrate at this time of year: the miracle of Christmas, God with us. The Devil tried to stop Christmas through making a great battle...
...and Revelation 12 shows us 2 aspects of that battle of Christmas:

1. Someone tried to stop Christmas from coming

John shows us a picture of a woman dressed in splendor: she is clothed with the sun, standing on the moon, and crowned by 12 stars.

She represents Israel, the people of God, prepared to fulfill the plan of God established from before the foundation of the earth.

The woman is poised to give birth to the promised Son, the Messiah, who will save his people from their sins.

A dragon arises with 7 heads and 10 horns. He is an impostor, a poser, presenting himself as someone powerful and good. Yet he is bent on the destruction of the woman and especially of her child.

The dragon is the Devil, our Adversary (Rev 12:9), and though he tries very hard to ruin God's plan, he cannot and does not succeed.

2. But no one can stop God's gift

Because of and by the sovereignty of God, his gift did come. He was born of the virgin, in the fulness of time, to fulfill prophecy, to accomplish God's redemptive plan, overcoming all opposition, to save his people.

Many Christmas presents do not live up to the hype: but the gift that the Lord gave to us two millennia ago entirely fulfills and satisfies.

Questions:

1. Are you comforted by the sovereignty of God? Or does it bother or offend you?
2. What troubles are attacking your joy? Do any troubles seem to overwhelm it?
3. What comfort does the Lord offer you?