## A MESSENGER.....

What is Christmas? It's the birth of a Savior. And He is a Savior (not a religious title but recognition of what He does) because He saves. What does He save us from? The simple answer is OUR SINS. What is sin would be the next question? And that dear friend is what we will touch upon in this letter.

What is sin? There are many definitions and explanations for what sin is. One of them is that sin is the transgression of the law of God. Another says "if one knows to do good and does not, then that is sin". Another says all unrighteousness is sin. In other words actions which are not just and equitable are sinful actions. Others state murder, theft, lies, and other actions resulting from selfishness, jealousy, envy, greedy desires, pride and many others are a sin. In many places in scripture, the word "offence" is also used synonymous to sin.

Sin also simply means to "miss the mark" and this word sin was used in the course of history when an archer missed his target. And this is what we want to highlight at this time because this is the crux or the blueprint to understanding the term, Sin. As already mentioned above, if an archer missed his target (mark), it was called sin. So in the light of the search for the root cause let us understand what mark we missed.

"And man BECAME A LIVING SOUL. Not WILLINGLY subjected to this vanity, this mistaken identity, but through Him (God) who subjected His creation in HOPE. See dear friend, we want to take too much credit. We want to believe it is all because of us. That, we actually have the power to decide our own destiny. But we forget the one who created us and is forming, fashioning and making us into His own image.

Just as a potter must take a lump of shapeless, formless clay that is without beauty and mix it with water to make it conform to the condition where it will co-operate so as to allow the potter to shape it into a masterpiece of beauty as visioned in the potters mind, so also did the Creator of all things make all things work together for good. He created the right conditions so that everything would FALL into place and begins the process according to the foreknowledge of God and the good pleasure of His will which He has purposed in Himself.

One says "if all things are working for good, then why call Jesus a Savior, what was the need for Him to be born? Since God is in control, what does the world need a savior for? We would like to definitely consider these questions, but for now suffice it to affirm that all things are working together for good and those who love God and have recognized, been awakened to the call of God know this.

We invite you to learn more, come let us reason together.