

Week 51  
349/16

**Transforming Daily**  
**“... He will save His people from their sins ...”**  
*Matthew 1:21*

This passage poses an interesting question, “Who are the people of Christ?” Does Matthew refer exclusively to the Jews? Does he refer to Jesus’ family, i.e., Mary, Joseph, and His half brothers and sisters? What about the Gentiles? I think the matter can be settled by several passages throughout Scripture, but none more succinctly as Mark 3:35, “whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother.” In general terms, there is no better passage of Scripture to settle the matter than John 3:16, “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

However, it is true that salvation came to the Jews first and then to the Gentiles, but nevertheless it came. Believers of all nationalities and race are collectively the people of God. Jesus is our older brother. The Gentile (if you’re not a Jew then you’re a Gentile), in Christ, has been grafted into the system. According to Paul, the Gentile being grafted into the system has a specific purpose, and that is to make Israel as a nation jealous so that they will turn back to God (Romans chapters 9-11).

This text is the Christmas message. Jesus Christ came as a Hebrew, born of the Jews, to save from their sins all who will trust Him as their Savior, the Lord’s anointed. This text is the gospel, the good news, that man may be reconciled to God, in Christ Jesus, by grace through faith.

Are you one of the people of God? You say that you are a Jew and of your father Abraham, therefore need no forgiveness of sin. You need to read what the Bible says about that in both the Old Testament and the New Testament. No one comes to the Father (God) except through Jesus Christ His Son. Is that your testimony this Christmas? Are you a testimony to Christ in deed and in word sharing that He will save His people from their sins?