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<http://Andrew.Kulp.com>
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APK's Attic

The record of the ministry of Andrew P. Kulp
 as a Lakeview Baptist Church Seminary Intern



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Unless the Lord builds a house, the work of the builder is useless. Unless the Lord protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. It is useless for you to work so hard from early in the morning until late at night, anxiously working for food to eat; for God gives rest to His loved ones. Psalm 127:1-2 (NLT)

Trinkets: That Trunk in the Corner of the Attic

The final fall semester for my seminary career is now completed. As I write this special Christmas edition of *APK's Attic*, the blessed holiday is merely a week away. Knowing how our postal service works, some of you may not even receive this edition before the holiday passes. That is my fault, but I had a lot of work to do to finish off the semester, so I put off this newsletter until all my work was completed.

Heartwork: Pastoral Internship Responsibilities

I am still getting positive feedback from my sermon, which was now over a month ago. Several tapes have been sent out to several areas of the country. You can still order my sermon from the church for \$3 plus \$1 for shipping per tape. Order "Ministry That Works, Andrew Kulp, November 11, 2001" through the Lakeview Tape Ministry.

In the midst of finishing my semester of seminary work, I competed term of service under Cliff Knight in the college department. My final Sunday, I invited several college students over for lunch, which is always a great joy for me, as I enjoy cooking. It also gives me reason to make sure my house is clean. The same night, the college department had a "Chili Cook-off" as a study-break during finals. I cooked a pot of my special "20-minute Chili," which won second place in the "non-student division." One of my fellow intern's wife, Hannah, won first place . . . which means that the two of us beat out all of the "experienced mothers." (Sorry, I had to brag a little bit.)

BuildingChurch: Planting, Growth, & Health

Last week, I made contacts with both the pastor I worked with this past summer and the Director of Missions in Maryland/Delaware. My resume is now on file, and work has begun in the process of finding a location for a new church. Keep an eye on <http://BuildingChurch.net/wc> for more details.

Gone Mental: Seminary Course Work

As already stated, the work for this semester is now over. Having two semesters of Church History this fall made this the most difficult semester for the entire three years. I'm glad its over, and hope a good portion of the material remains usefully in my brain after such hard work.

I am now preparing for my final "J-Term," *Systematic Theology II*, taught by Dr. Danny Akin in Louisville, KY, on January 14-18. I have a lot of work to do over the holidays, but I expect this class to be as profitable as the first half was last year.

I am also looking forward to a slightly lighter class load for the Spring, my final semester of seminary. Classes have not yet been finalized, so I will update you when the time comes.

Ephesians 1:16: Thanksgiving and Prayer

Thank you:

Many who gave special birthday and Christmas gifts. I was able to buy a new desk chair with my birthday money, and some other much-needed things with the Christmas money.

Praises:

Church History is over!

Roommate, Josh, led a classmate to Christ while studying for finals! Pray for effective follow-up.

Prayers:

My financial support has been a little low over the past several weeks. Please pray that the year-end giving picks up to get me started well next year. Gifts need to be in the church office by noon on Dec. 31, or postmarked on the same date in order to be counted on 2001 taxes.

CO, JJ, MK, MS & TW—job/career situations.



Et Moi: Personal Comments

Christmas is always a special time of year. There is always so much going on, it seems hard to keep up.

If at no other time of the year, families and friends come together at Christmas. Christmas cards and letters become a form of catch-up on everything that has happened over the previous year, and looking forward to a joyful future.

As you have read this December edition of *APK's Attic*, you may be thinking that this is no exception to the traditions of Christmas. In many ways, that is true. Christmas truly is a special time of year to me. It is the one time of the year that my entire family seems to be able to get together.

This year, my brother and I will both be heading to Florida on the same day. Dan will be flying in from Boston, as I drive in from Auburn, AL. I'm looking forward to Wednesday night dinner as we are able to sit down as a family again, to kick off this holiday season.

Christmas is also a season where we express how much we appreciate the ones we love through cards, gifts, and other thoughtful gestures. There's no way I could ever adequately express my appreciation to all of you who have supported my ministry over these past two and a half years both through your prayers and through your financial support. My prayer is constantly that God would reward your continued faithfulness for many years to come.

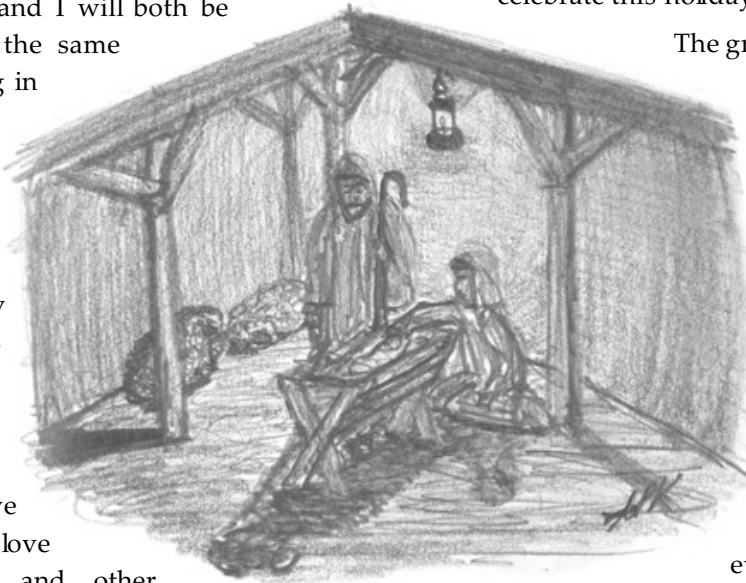
I love the gifts and the parties, the time with friends, and the love of family. But Christmas is so much more than family and friends. It is so much more than gifts and parties.

Christmas is what its name implies: "Christ's Mass." Mass is a term generally used by the Catholic Church which includes a certain set of liturgical practices. In a more general sense, Mass is a special occasion in

which Christians gather together to celebrate the work of the Lord Jesus in their lives. Specifically, the Mass is viewed as a representation of Christ's sacrifice suffered on the cross.

While certain aspects of the Mass are debated between Catholics and Protestants, the significance of the cross in the celebration of Christmas is incredible. We normally associate the cross with Easter, for that is when we celebrate Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. But without Easter, Christmas would be meaningless, and without Christmas, Easter would not have been possible.

This year, as you and your family gather together to celebrate the joys of Christmas, I encourage you to take a special look at Jesus. Why is it that we celebrate this holiday in the ways that we do?

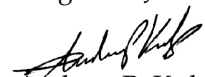


The greatest gift ever given was the gift given on that very first Christmas night: the baby Jesus, born of a teen-age virgin girl, in a dirty old stable, late one night as masses of people went about their business, dealing with a decree of census issued by Caesar. Who would have thought that such an event would become one

of the two most celebrated events in the history of the world, and the other event being in the life of the same person born that glorious night?

This Christmas, don't forget the reason why this birth is special. It marks the moment in history where God made tangible His promise of all eternity: He will make possible the redemption of mankind into a loving, personal relationship with Himself, which we were created for, but have been missing since the garden of Eden. Have you begun this relationship? If not, I encourage you to begin this Christmas with such a relationship.

Celebrating With Jesus,


Andrew P. Kulp