

GOD'S HIGHWAY

MERRY CHRISTMAS - GOODBYE



Merry Christmas!!! A ton of things happen during December, but certainly the biggest event of all is Christmas. My grandchildren look forward to this holiday for the presents they might receive. That's the point of view of a child. My adult friends look forward to Christmas for the prospect of seeing many dear family and friends again during the season. That's the point of view of a grownup as they realize that people are vastly more important than any toy you will ever get in your life. My Christian friends look back to the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, knowing that the blessed life they enjoy today is a gift made possible by that miraculous day so long ago.

I love Christmas, and can easily find myself just rushing through the happy times. But as a slightly older person, I often think back to terrible times in the past when I would hate

to have stood before God in that condition. Then I had my own personal Christmas, and allowed Jesus to be born in the stable of my life as my Lord and Savior. Because of Christ, I have a whole new life. I have said goodbye to many past behaviors, attitudes and values. I said hello to a life with peace and purpose. For the most part we hate goodbyes, but some are good ones. This is one.

This issue will be my last for the simple reason that I resigned from my CMA position last year in order to make way for the new man whom I helped train to take my place. I've continued with this wonderful connection during this year, but I feel it's time to hand it over to Randal Tebeau, who will do a fine job. I'm not washed up, but there is a time for a change, and the Lord impressed me that this was it. I've been writing this column for 11 years as the CMA Regional Evangelist, with the first article showing up in the May 2000 issue of Dixierider, the earlier version of US Rider News. The magazine has improved every year, and I'm proud to have been associated with it. Scott and Sylvia have very graciously given me this venue to connect with many of you whom I've met at the rallies and on the road, and also many whom I have not met. It's been a great way for me to share stories from the High Way, and pass along tips that have helped my Sweetie Pie and I enjoy the ride. Many of you emailed or called to make a personal connection. I love all these aspects of US Rider News.

But more importantly, I have written God's

High Way to encourage you to see God speaking to us through the rides, through the bikes, through the mountains, through the breakdowns, etc, etc. That's been the whole point. If you never meet Gary Wadding personally, it's no big deal. If you never meet Jesus Christ personally, your life is a temporarily interesting dead end ride. It's like the greatest motorcycle ever made, but just sitting in a garage, never started, never ridden, and doomed to eventually rust and be thrown away without fulfilling its purpose. It's like riding down the Road To Nowhere in North Carolina, near the Fontana Dam.

We were made by God. We were made for God. Our life is a chance to choose God, and I hope I've been a small tool to help you make that choice. I can't overstate how much you need Jesus. I can't sugar coat or deny Hell. I can't say all roads lead to God. I have to be true to Jesus and invite you to give it all to Him, because He's worthy of it all. Enjoy the ride. Get on to God's High Way. Goodbye to you, my many dear friends. Merry Christmas.



Gary Wadding

