

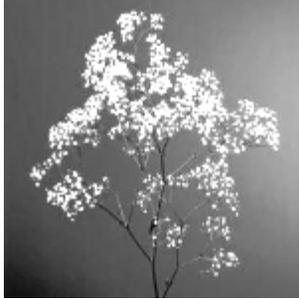


FRANKLIN ROAD

baptist church

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BABY'S BREATH



WHEN YOU RECEIVE AN ARRANGEMENT OF ROSES THEY ALMOST ALWAYS INCLUDE BABY'S BREATH. THAT IS THE DELICATE WHITE STEMS THAT FILL IN THE ARRANGEMENT AND MAKE IT ESPECIALLY STUNNING.

LET'S THINK THOUGH FOR A MOMENT ABOUT ANOTHER BABY'S BREATH. "AND SHE BROUGHT FORTH HER FIRSTBORN SON, AND WRAPPED HIM IN SWADDLING CLOTHES, AND LAID HIM IN A MANGER, BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR THEM IN THE INN." (LUKE 2:6). AND FROM THE FATHER'S PERSPECTIVE WE READ IN GALATIANS 4:4, "BUT WHEN THE FULLNESS OF TIME CAME, GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON, BORN OF A WOMEN."

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT JESUS' FIRST BREATH OF HUMAN AIR? NOW THAT WAS ONE AMAZING BABY'S BREATH! PHILIPPIANS 2:6-7 REMINDS US "ALTHOUGH HE EXISTED IN THE FORM OF GOD, DID NOT REGARD EQUALITY WITH GOD A THING TO BE GRASPED, BUT EMPTIED HIMSELF, TAKING THE FORM OF A BOND-SERVANT, BEING MADE IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN." THINK OF IT . . . JESUS THE KING AND CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE STEPPED OUT OF HEAVEN AND INTO A CRADLE!

WHEN BABY'S BREATH IS ADDED TO AN ARRANGEMENT IT'S STEM IS NO DOUBT PIERCED BY THE THORNS OF THE ROSE. THE REALITY IS THAT THIS NEWBORN BABE WOULD ONE DAY BE PIERCED. MATTHEW 27:29 INDICATES THAT MOCKING SOLDIERS TWISTED TOGETHER A CROWN OF THORNS AND PLACED IT ON OUR SAVIOR'S HEAD AND JOHN 19:34 TELLS US THAT ONE OF THE SOLDIERS PIERCED HIS SIDE WITH A SPEAR, AND IMMEDIATELY BLOOD AND WATER CAME OUT.

THIS CHRISTMAS LET US REFLECT ON THE CHRIST-CHILD'S FIRST BREATHE BUT NOT FORGET THE REDEEMER'S FINAL CRY, "IT IS FINISHED!" AFTER WHICH HE BOWED HIS HEAD AND GAVE UP HIS SPIRIT. (JOHN 19:30) THAT BABY IS OUR SIN-BEARER.

THIS CHRISTMAS PRAISE GOD FOR BABY'S BREATH.

LOOKING UP,
PASTOR CHUCK CIRCLE

