

A SEASON TO CELEBRATE

Lesson Four: A Season to Rejoice – Luke 2:1 - 7

INTRODUCTION

- Many Christmas songs we sing mention what word that we should notice? The word mentioned is JOY!
- Christ's arrival on earth during a dark time in history, reminded us that God had not forgotten mankind.
- He orchestrated this plan to eliminate the burden of sin, before the beginning of time.
- At Christmas, we are reminded that no matter what is going on in the world around us or what burdens we carry, there is always JOY in the presence of Jesus!: *Psalm 16:11*

I. Joy in His _____: *Verses 1 - 2*

A. He _____ history: *Isaiah 7:14; 1 Timothy 3:16; 1 Peter 1:9-11.*

B. He _____ history: *Jeremiah 1:12; Proverbs 21:1; Micah 5:2; Romans 8:28.*

II. Joy in His _____: *Verses 6 - 7*

A. The _____ was _____: *Matthew 2:1-2; John 6:32-35.*

B. The _____ was _____: *1 John 4:9.*

1. The _____ man has no room: *Mark 8:36;*

2. The _____ man has no room:
1 Corinthians 1:18-19

3. The _____ man has no room: *John 1:10-12; John 14:6.*

III. Joy in His _____

A. A _____ presentation: *Romans 1:3; John 1:14; Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 1:15.*

B. A _____ presentation: *Romans 1:4; Luke 1:32; Colossians 2:9.*

CONCLUSION:

- **A pardon from the penalty of a crime to be valid must be *accepted !!!***
- **Likewise Christ died on the cross to offer us a full pardon. We must *accept* it to be applied on our behalf: *2 Corinthians 5:21.***
- **When you know the Christ personally, Christmas is indeed a season to rejoice: *2 Corinthians 9:15.***

The Nativity Characters – Mary, Jesus’ Mother”

Text: Luke 1:26 – ff

Sunday, December 13, 2020, 11:00 a.m.

Introduction: The series of Sunday sermons during December is intended to help to solidify our knowledge of the true Christmas story by looking at The Nativity’s Character. Last Sunday we studied Joseph, the husband of Mary. It was noted though there are no recorded words of his we were challenged by his actions.

In this sermon we learn from Mary, Jesus’ mother and how she understood that Christ’s birth was not about getting but was about giving to others. Note the following about Mary’s life:

I. Mary was a Clean Vessel (Vs.26-33).

II. Mary Trusted God’s Word (Vs.34-38).

III. Mary Obeyed God without Question (Vs.30-49).

A. God knows what He is doing (Isaiah 55:8-9).

B. God always does what is right (Deuteronomy 32:4).

C. Mary’s response to God (Luke 1:38).

Conclusion: All of us have been, and are, in the same situation as Mary. God says, "This is how it’s going to be," and He doesn’t ask our opinion or solicit our input. He simply acts according to His wisdom and love. And our choice, just like Mary’s, is whether we will submit to God or whether we will rebel. Submission to God’s will is an act of faith.

Is there something God is calling for you to do that you are having a hard time saying “yes” to?

What circumstance has God brought into your life that you are having a difficult time accepting?

Now is the time to follow Mary’s example in life.

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"Nativity's Characters – Shepherds and Angels"

Text: Luke 2:8 – 20

Sunday, December 13, 2020, 1:00 p.m.

Introduction: Surveys in recent years show that fewer and fewer people in America believe the Christmas story is historically accurate. An alarming number of professing Christians do not believe parts of the Bible account of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Some say that Joseph is one of the most overlooked and forgotten characters of the Nativity. The Nativity characters in this study may not be much better know or considered that Joseph.

The "no name" characters of "shepherds" and "angels."

I. The Shepherds Held in God's Word (Vs. 8).

- A. Old Testament – Abel, Moses, David, Amos
(Gen. 4:2; Ex. 3:1; I Sam. 16:11; Amos 1:1)
- B. Jesus Christ – The Good Shepherd (John 10:11-14)
- C. Pastors – "under shepherd (I Peter 5:2-4)

II. The Shepherds Heard the Message of God (Vss. 9-14).

III. The Shepherds Heeded the Message of God (Vss. 15-16).

IV. The Shepherds Heralded the Message of God (Vss.10-12, 17-18).

V. The Angels' Heavenly Message from God (Vss. 10-14).

Conclusion: The shepherds and angels though unnamed characters of The Nativity of Christ had a very important role to play. The angels came to the lowly humble shepherds with the heavenly message from God. Then, the shepherds came and worshipped the one who was the focus of that message. After worshipping the Christ child, the shepherds depart the stable and carried that same message to a lost and dying world.

What the world needs now is for Christians to humble themselves before Jesus Christ and worship Him. Then, go and tell the world of that heavenly message that Christ the Saviour was born.

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