

Sun Morning

A Saviour Proclaimed

PASTOR PAUL CHAPPELL | DECEMBER 24, 2023

Text: Luke 2:9-19

“And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest,

and on earth peace,

good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

INTRODUCTION

- a. 3 Witnesses to Jesus' birth
- b. In 3:16 God gave His only begotten Son

A GIFT TO THE SHEPHERDS

1. They heard the words of comfort - Do not be afraid
2. They heard the words of direction - Go to Bethlehem
3. They saw the Lord Jesus Christ a baby

1. THE SHEPHERDS Wondered AND WITNESSED. - in awe

- A. They sought the Lord in Bethlehem
- the way looking for the baby

Jesus - living Word of God

B. They saw the Lord in Bethlehem

a body prepared for the son of God

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." (John 1:14) also see Heb 10:5

"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." (Colossians 2:9)

C. They spoke of the Lord to all

Who is Jesus?

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:" (1 Peter 4:19) see Jn 1:1-4

"And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19) - Jesus speaking

"Is For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." (1 Corinthians 1:18, 21)

"And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them." (Luke 2:20)

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." (Psalm 126:5)

2. SIMEON waited

AND WITNESSED - personally guided by Holy Spirit

Come near to the holy men and women of the past and you will soon feel the heat of their desire after God. They mourned for Him, they prayed and wrestled and sought for Him day and night, in season and out, and when they had found Him, the finding was all the sweeter for the long seeking... Complacency is a deadly foe of all spiritual growth. - A. W. Tozer

A. A patient saint

Jesus speaking

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you." (John 16:13-14)

"And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." (Galatians 5:24-25)

B. A proclaimed Savior

Gal. 4=4
fullness
of time

"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:6, 8)

"For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe." (1 Timothy 4:10)

C. A prophesied Sorrow - Mary's heart

Jn 19:25
at the
cross

"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner" (Acts 4:11)

3. ANNA watched
AND WITNESSED - prayer & fasting

A. A watchful servant

"See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is" (Ephesians 5:15-17)

B. A faithful servant

"Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." (John 20:21)

CONCLUSION:

