

Joy to the World Luke 2:8-14

The Christmas Story

- It's all so _____ and _____.
- It all goes down in real human time, with real human people, in a real human place. This is real _____. That's why Luke doesn't begin verse 1 by saying, "Once upon a time." Instead, he says, "In those days."
- On this night, in Bethlehem, the one true God comes to us, on our turf, to rescue and redeem His lost creation. This is the most _____ birth in human history.

A Night to Remember

- It's _____ and _____.
- A group of _____ will be the first to receive word of Jesus' birth.
- Isn't that just like God; turning societal norms on their head, exalting the _____ and humbling the exalted? Isaiah 9:2, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."
- The shepherds are filled with _____.

Good News of Mega Joy

- The bridge from fear to joy is the _____—the good news that Jesus was born to live and die and rise again to save us.
- The gospel takes sinful people who are _____ of God and transforms them into people whose eternal _____ is God.
- Joy is a deep, durable _____ in God that ruins you for anything else and can't be touched by anything else.
- In Christ, your joy is unshakable and unbreakable—because, in Christ, your relationship with God is _____ and unchangeable. Romans 8:31, "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"
- The birth announcement ...
 - When? _____.
 - Where? In the city of _____ (Bethlehem).
 - Who?
 - _____ ... the promised Messiah
 - The _____ ... the Sovereign One who created and controls all things
 - _____ ... His mission is to save us from our sins
 - "You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." The point? Jesus is _____ to all kinds of people! Applications ... Like Jesus, are we accessible to all kinds of people? Are we accessible to Jesus ... does He have unrestricted access to every room in our heart?
- How big of a deal is salvation? When the Savior is born, all of heaven shows up to celebrate it! "Glory to God in the _____!"

Applications

What are you captivated by and enamored with?

- Joy isn't found in a profession or a possession; it's found in a _____ ... Jesus is joy!
- _____ stuff is incapable of satisfying an _____ soul.

Psalm 16:11, "In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."