



SERMON TAKE HOME- Luke 2:1-14-Good news of Great Joy

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, remember without the birth, there is no righteous life, with the righteous life, there is no atoning death, without the atoning death, there is no resurrection, and without the resurrection, there is no looking to His return. We should celebrate the birth, life, death, and resurrection daily, and we should long for His return continually (Rev 22:20)

¹⁰ *And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."* ¹¹ *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

"I bring you good news"

- The first thing we need to see is that the gospel of Jesus Christ is "Good news", and we are called to proclaim this good news to the dying world.
- As you think through this past year, consider how you did in fulfilling the call of every believer to proclaim the good news to the lost. Purpose in your heart, by God's grace and power, that you will obey this command this new year.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.-Jesus is the Savior

- There is one way to be in right standing with God-John 14:6 *Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*
- There is no other name by which men can be saved-Acts 4:12 *And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."*
- The gospel demands a response from every person-Believe or perish! (Mark 1:15)
- Jesus Christ came and accomplished salvation for His people. He finished the work (John 19:30). We are called to repent and believe.

"of great joy"

- The gospel is good news and it brings great joy. Is the great joy of the gospel that our sins are forgiven and we don't go to hell? Or is it greater than that? Our sin being forgiven is the means to the great joy-Knowing and enjoying God!
- Consider this question I heard a preacher ask once "If when you died you went to heaven and heaven consisted of no more sickness, no more pain, no more tears, your family and friends were there but Jesus was not there, would be ok with that?" Unfortunately most professing Christians if they answered honest would have to answer "yes."
 - For the true believer, the answer is "NO!" Our joy, sufficiency, treasure, and hope is Jesus Christ. You don't have to be born again to want to be rid of sickness, pain, suffering, and to be with friends and family forever, but you do need to be born again to want Jesus! Only those who are born again love and treasure Jesus.
 - If all we want is peace, and comfort without Jesus, then Jesus is only a means to our selfish desires. The true gospel is this-Jesus is a means to Himself! He saves you unto Himself so you can love and enjoy Him forever.
 - The great joy of the gospel is not merely being forgiven of our sins, but it is what the forgiveness of our sins brings us to-God Himself!