

God's greatest gift

The good news of Christmas centers around one person.

He is God's unparalleled gift who alone can bring "*Unspeakable Joy*" to all mankind.

Text:

Luke 2: 9-14, "An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "***Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.***" Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

Our text for today gave us 5 main reasons why we need to celebrate the birth and coming of Christ...

Five Main reasons...

1. TO TAKE AWAY OUR FEARS

v10. "*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid...*" Since the fall of man, man has always been driven by fear.

They do things out of fear.

And we wonder where it all started. Why do we all have an inclination to fear someone or something?

Read *Genesis 3:10-11*

¹⁰ *“I heard Your voice in the garden,” he replied, “and I was **afraid** because I was naked; so I hid myself.”*

¹¹ *“Who told you that you were naked?” asked the LORD God. “Have you eaten of the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?”*

There are 365 “Fear not” in the Bible and there is a reason for that.

God’s message to us each day is – **FEAR NOT.**

Jesus came to take away all our fears.

Read *John 14:1, 27; 16:33*

2. TO BRING GOOD NEWS THAT WILL CAUSE GREAT JOY

v10. *I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people...*

Since the fall of man, people are constantly believing about the bad news.

When there is separation or brokenness in relationship, there is nothing good about it.

Here is the great news.

God has come – “IMMANUEL” – **God who is with us.**

He has come to restore our relationship back to the Father.

And because Jesus is with us...

- We don't have to live in fear and uncertainty.
- We don't have to live under guilt and condemnation.
- We don't have to live in darkness.
- We don't have to live a life alienated, separated from God.

And because Jesus is with us...

- We are now set free from the power and penalty of our sin.
- Through Jesus, we can now have a wonderful and meaningful relationship with God.

Read *Ephesians 2: 11-14, 19*

3. TO REVEAL THE COMING OF THE SAVIOUR

v11. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you...

Everyone has fallen short of God's standard. Our sin places a separation between us and God. The gulf between us and God is so wide, and the separation is so great, that none of us, by his own efforts, by his own good work is able to close it.

Our greatest need was forgiveness, so God sent us a Saviour.

It is the most awaited moment when man will be released from his own prison.

Read *Acts 4:2; 10:43; I Tim. 2:5*

4. TO REVEAL THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH ***v11. He is the Messiah...***

Jesus is **the** Messiah not just **a** Messiah.

Generation after generation, Jewish people and nations have waited for the promised Messiah.

He is the person chosen by God who will be the future king coming from the lineage of David, who is expected to bring SALVATION and will be ANOINTED to rule the people and nations.

Jesus is the one anointed by God to be the king who will bring Salvation and rule to all mankind.

5. TO REVEAL THE COMING OF THE LORD ***v11 ... He is Christ the Lord.***

Friends, it is one thing to receive Him as our Saviour and Messiah, but it is another thing to receive Him as Lord.

To call someone “**Lord**”, he or she is someone with authority, control or power over others.

To say that someone is “**Lord**” is to consider that person a master or ruler of some kind.

When we say “**Jesus is Lord**”, it means we commit ourselves to obey Him.

Jesus asked, “Why do you call me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I say?” (Luke 6:46).

An acknowledgement of Jesus’ lordship must be accompanied by a submission to His authority. If Jesus is Lord, then **He owns us, and He has all the right to tell us what to do.**

Friends, when we say, “Jesus is Lord”, we are also saying that Jesus is our God and has supreme authority over all things in our life.

Read *Phil. 2:9-11*

The first time Jesus came, He came veiled in the form of a child. There was no room for Him and only a few attended His arrival.

The next time Jesus comes, He will be recognized and seen by all. All the hosts of heaven will REVEAL His glory – The Saviour, the true Messiah and the Lord of all lords.

Jesus our greatest gift