

Glad Tidings of Great Joy!

I. THE ANGELS AMAZING ANOUNCEMENT

- A. On the night Christ was born, there was great activity going on! Shepherds were in the field keeping watch over their flocks. Angels were hustling above. Mary and Joseph were attempting to find a place for the Christ-Child to be born, but there was no room for them anywhere.

⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

*¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”*

¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷ Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ¹⁸ And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them. (Luke 2:6-20)

II. WHY IS IT GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY?

- A. **A Savior is Born:** By definition, the word savior means, a person who saves, rescues, or delivers. The word used in the Bible in many places is the word “Sozo”. It means to save through and through. I’m glad that today, God sent someone to save us from our troubles. To save us from an eternity away from God.
- B. **He is Christ The Lord:** When you are in great need, how many know it matters who is sent to you to help? The angels declared, “He is Christ the Lord!” His name is Christos (Gk), the anointed One, The Messiah. The Son of God. The Apostle John, one of the 12 said of Him: ***“And the Word became 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).*** He goes on to say, ***“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name” Jn. 1:12)***

- C. **Peace and Goodwill Toward Men:** The heavenly hosts declared, *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men!*” (Lk. 2:14). Christ came to earth to reveal the grace of God to men. Grace is a word that means that God did for us, what we could not do for ourselves. All we have to do, is receive it like a free gift. No wonder the angels called it Glad Tidings of Great Joy!