

Luke 1.26-38, Matthew 1.18-25 - Sermon Notes - December 26, 2021

YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS

- well, Christmas has come and gone, and people have a wide range of emotions
 - some are relieved that it's over, and we can get back to normal, whatever that looks like
 - some are melancholy, let the let down after an adrenaline rush
 - others may be worried about how they are going to pay for everything when the bills start rolling in
 - maybe some are disappointed because things didn't work out the way they wanted it to
 - others are lonely and discouraged because of being alone
 - some are just plain tired
 - and, some rejoicing because they understand the true meaning behind all of the celebrations
- the words of a popular worship song by Chris Tomlin is what led me to talk about Christmas one more time!

Do you feel the world is broken? (We do)

Do you feel the shadows deepen? (We do)

But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? (We do)

Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (We do)

Is all creation groaning? (It is)

Is a new creation coming? (It is)

Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (It is)

Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (It is)

Does the Father truly love us? (He does)

Does the Spirit move among us? (He does)

And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? (He does)

Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (He does)

- particularly, the line "Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? It Is!"

1. VISITED BY AN ANGEL

- [Luke 1.26-38](#) - The angel visits Mary
- [Matthew 1.18-25](#) - The angel visits Joseph
- in both visitations, the angel emphasised what the baby was to be named when He was born
- Jesus is the Greek for the Hebrew "Yashua."
 - This is a contradiction of "Yahweh Shua," which mean "God or Yahweh our salvation."
- The name expresses the mission of Christ.
 - "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
 - "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world by Him..."
- The name "Yashua" is the greatest name on earth.
 - "Wherefore God has also highly exalted Him and given Him a name that is above all other names..."

2. THE PLAN OF GOD FROM THE BEGINNING

- to understand why this is so significant, we need to look back at the plan of God from the beginning
- From the beginning, when man was first created, the heart of the Father was to be with His people.
 - He walked with Adam in the Garden
 - He told Moses in the desert to make a sanctuary that He may dwell with His people
 - Solomon built a Temple where God could meet with His people
 - The son of God came and dwelt among us, and we beheld His Glory
 - He now dwells within us
 - One day, He will destroy the heavens and the earth, and we dwell with Him forever

3. THE PROBLEM OF SIN AND SEPERATION

- there is a disease much more severe and deadly than anything humanity has ever faced
- it affects very single person who was or will be born, and it is 100% fatal
 - the statistics are in: one out of every one person who is born dies
 - every cemetery, obituary is a constant reminder of this

- Ecclesiastes 7.2 in the New Century Version - It is better to go to a funeral than to a party. We all must die, and everyone living should think about this.
- the Bible is the only place that reveals what this deadly disease for which there is no cure is - SIN!
- When man disobeyed the command God had given in the Garden, sin entered the human race, and the death sentence given to Adam has passed to every one of His descendants
 - what happened when Adam and Eve had their first child?
 - [Romans 5:12, 19](#) - Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned-- ... For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

4. HOPE RESTORED

- if that were the end of the story, we might as well eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die
- but that's not the end of the story
- God a plan that was before the world was ever created
- even as our first parents thought that all hope was lost, God gave the first hint that hope would be restored
 - [Genesis 3:15](#) - And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."
- from there, through the remainder of the Old Testament, the unfolding plan of a coming Redeemer is revealed
- every page, passage, sacrifice add detail and color to the plan and person
 - a quick Google search = The story of Jesus saturates the metanarrative of the Bible, and prophecies of His first advent are found throughout the Old Testament. Allusions to Him also come up in micro ways, as many people and events hint at the work He would accomplish. One scholar, J. Barton Payne, has found as many as 574 verses in the Old Testament that somehow point to or describe or reference the coming Messiah. Alfred Edersheim found 456 Old Testament verses referring to the Messiah or His times. Conservatively, Jesus fulfilled at least 300 prophecies in His earthly ministry. (<https://www.gotquestions.org/prophecies-of-Jesus.html>).
- many of these immortalized in a production that is very popular during this time of the year - Handel's Messiah
- a couple of my favorites - [Genesis 22](#) and [Isaiah 9.6](#)

- then, just at the right time = [Galatians4:4-5](#)- But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.
- now back to our story and why the angel told Mary and Joseph the child would be named Jesus - He would save His people from their sin
- Hope restored!

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December 31, 2021