

Series: The Actors of Advent

Text: Luke 2:1-21

Main Idea: The birth in Bethlehem is reason to rejoice!

Title/Hook: Birth Announcement

Date: 12/17/23

Purpose: To exhort Christians to praise and glorify God because of the good news of the birth of Jesus the Savior. To show non-Christians how the birth of Jesus is good news of great joy for all and to call them to faith in Him.

FCF/COR: We need a Savior. We cannot come to God because of our sin, but God came to us in the birth of Christ. Jesus did not come for the strong or deserving, but came for the weak and the sinful, he revealed his salvation in a manger to shepherds, not on a throne to kings.

Christ Trajectory: Jesus is Christ the Lord, the Savior, this is good news for all whom God favors and who trust in Him.

Apologetic: Luke's orderly account, the census by Caesar, contrary to claims of skeptics this is happening is real history.

Call to Worship: Romans 11:33-36

Benediction: Revelation 5:13

Structure: Inductive

### **Main Idea:**

Subject (What is the passage about?): Why do the angels and the shepherds praise and glorify God?

Complement (What does the passage say about the subject?): Because of the good news of great joy that a Savior is born in the city of David who is Christ the Lord.

Exegetical Main Idea: The angels and the shepherds praise and glorify God because of the good news of great joy that a Savior is born in the city of David who is Christ the Lord.

Theological Main Idea: The good news of the birth of Jesus Christ the Lord, who is the Savior, brings great joy and leads to praise.

Homiletical Main Idea: The birth in Bethlehem is reason to rejoice!

Outline:

**Text:** Luke 2:1-21

**1. The birth in Bethlehem was the fulfillment of a promise (vv. 1-7)**

**Micah 5:2** – <sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old,  
from ancient days.

**Proverbs 21:1** - The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord;  
he turns it wherever he will.

**Quote – J.C. Ryle** – “A true Christian should never be greatly moved or disturbed by the conduct of the rulers of the earth. He should see with the eye of faith a hand overruling all that they do to the praise and glory of God. He should regard every king and potentate as a creature who, with all his power, can do nothing but what God allows, and nothing which is not carrying out God's will. And when the rulers of this world ‘set themselves against the Lord,’ he should take comfort in the words of Solomon, ‘There is one higher than they.’”

**2. The birth in Bethlehem was good news of great joy for all (vv. 8-21)**

**Quote – Mike McKinley** – “It is as if God were trying to make it crystal clear to what kind of people the good news of Jesus comes. It does not come to the rich and powerful—those who have no sense of their need. That’s not the way that God works. He does not reveal his ways to the Caesars of the world; he is the God who sends a messenger to shepherds.”

**Luke 5:30-32** - <sup>30</sup> And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>31</sup> And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of

a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>32</sup>I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.

**Read v. 13-14, 20 again.**

**Main Idea:** The birth in Bethlehem is reason to rejoice!