

Sermon Outline

Sermon Text: Luke 2:1-14

Sermon Title: **Why is Jesus's Joy so different?**

Luke 2:1-14 ¹ *In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.* ² *This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria.* ³ *And all went to be registered, each to his own town.* ⁴ *And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David,* ⁵ *to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.* ⁶ *And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.* ⁷ *And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.* ⁸ *And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.* ⁹ *And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.* 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.* ¹² *And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and 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 among those with whom he is pleased!" (ESV)*

Introduction

1. This Sunday is the 4th Sunday of Advent, the last Sunday. We said "**advent**" comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "**coming**" or "**appearance**." Advent is the season marking the four Sundays before Christmas on the Christian Calendar. The aim of **advent** season is to get the church of Jesus to reflect upon the awesome miracle that happened in that stable in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago.

2. One of the great truths that we need not to forget during Christmas or Advent season is the **measure of Joy** God brought by coming to earth in the form a Baby, Jesus.

Why is Jesus's Joy so different?

1. Because it **was to be** _____.

a. Luke 2:10 *"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**."* . It was what God had been promising through the centuries; what His people had been watching, praying, and waiting for years, and now had become flesh.

b. Luke 2:11 *"For today, in the city of David there has been born for you a **Savior**, who is Christ the Lord."* (ESV) What does this passage means for you today? It means that God has identified Himself with you, when you were unable to identify with Him! He came in a form a

little baby; born like you were born to fulfill the purposes of His father! Primarily to redeem or rescue man from his sinful state. If you accept Him for who is then He becomes your SAVIOR.!

2. Because it is _____. Luke 2:10 “*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.” (ESV)*

a. Notice the text didn’t say, **sad news!** It says, “**Good news.**” The **Gospel is still Good News.**

b. Notice Luke didn’t say **small joy!**. But says it is “**great joy.**” We have a good reason to celebrate the Joy of Christmas because the joy Jesus was bringing into the world was **great** and it was like **no other kind of Joy in history, and it was to be for “All the people**

c. You have the **world’s Joy**, and you have **Jesus’s Joy**.

1. The world Joy is about happiness that is based upon circumstances. You might have money in the bank, a good job, a cute car, a cute girl, or boyfriend but you still might not have Jesus’s joy.

2. Jesus Joy is different. 1 Peter 1:8 “*Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.*” (NIV)

a. The Greek word translated “**joy**” is a very strong word, describing **extreme joy or jubilant joy**.

b. The word “**inexpressible**” declares that this jubilant joy is of such a character that we cannot, by any possibility, explain it adequately to others.

c. What these two words are telling us is that everyone who really believes on the Lord Jesus have a reason to rejoice with a **jubilant joy** that is beyond **all description!** Others may have a certain amount of joy, a certain measure of gladness, but the only people who really know “inexpressible and glorious joy” are those who, as a result of their faith in Christ, are filled with the Holy Ghost.

3. Because real Joy comes _____!

a. It is the Joy of the Lord. It is God’s Joy. It is not of this world..

b. John 15:11 “I have spoken to you, that **my joy** may be **in you**, and that your **joy may be full** or (complete)” (ESV) And not only was His joy to be **in me** but it was to be **full and complete. Which means if you got His Joy, you got enough.**

c. Jesus’s joy was the very joy of God. There is no greater joy than the joy that Jesus has in God,... because God is the greatest **object** of joy!

d. You can have joy despite the circumstances. because **joy is an inner sense of well-being that abides when circumstances are unfavorable.**

4. Because once we have joy, it cannot be _____.

- a. Jesus said in John 16:22 that, “*No one will take your joy from you*” (NIV) WHY?
- b. Because the joy that Jesus came to bring is from **outside** this world. It is the very **joy** that Jesus himself has in God the Father—which he has had from all eternity and will have forever.
- c. It means that you can have joy as you come to realize its impact on you for eternity, your joy will become full, and it will be a joy that no one can take away.
- d. This Joy of salvation can give you a great desire to sing and shout and rejoice in the Lord always!
- e. You might don’t feel that kind of Joy in your life! If you don’t then it is either because You don’t have Jesus Joy in you because you never accepted it or you have it, but **you are not experiencing it** or **walking in it** or you let someone **take it away!**
- f. Richard Blackaby said, “If a Christian has loss their joy, just know no one has taken it away! But they decided to give it away!”
- g. There are some people who are classic Joy Killers. Joy Killers don’t have Joy and they can’t stand for anybody else to have Joy either. Stay away from these people or don’t let these people still your JOY.
- h. Don’t point to others **or things for your reason for not having Joy**. Don’t say if everything aligns itself perfectly then I can have joy. Because the reality in life is that **everything in your life will not always go perfect all the time**. There will always be JOY KILLERS in your life.
- i. Nehemiah 8:10c says, “.....Joy of the Lord is MY STRENGTH.” (NIV) Notice He didn’t say **money** is my strength, my girlfriend/boyfriend is my strength. **You know why he didn’t say it**, because Matthew 24:35 says “*heaven and earth shall pass way but my words will never pass away.*” (NIV) This is why you shouldn’t put your stock in temporal things.. but eternal things...that last forever..
- j. As a Christian you **may have Joy on the inside**, but it will not operate or show up **on the outside** until you choose to let it show up! You must **ask the Holy Spirit** to stir up the Joy that God has already given You.
- Isaiah 61:1-3. It is a prophetic Word announcing the coming ministry of Jesus. It says “*The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners,² to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn,³ and provide for those who grieve in Zion—to bestow on them a **crown of beauty** instead **of ashes**, the **oil of joy** instead **of mourning**, and a **garment of praise** instead of a **spirit of despair**.* (ESV)
1. What God wants you to do is do a GIFT Exchange. Latter part of vs. 3 says “***crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.*** God wants you to give him your SAD RAGS for His GLAD

RAGS.

2. He wants you to throw off the things that are stilling your joy and replace them with something from Him that he brought over 2,000 years ago at Bethlehem. You give Him your SORROW then He will give you, HIS JOY!

k. Or You may be someone who may not have JOY on the INSIDE then if you want to experience it then you have to first you receive it today by surrendering to Jesus. If you want to experience His Joy then pray **this prayer**: Lord Jesus today I recognize that I don't have your Joy. I want to experience your joy. I surrender my life to you today. Forgive me of my sins. I accept you as my Lord and Savior. Come live inside of me and fill me with your Holy Spirit. Amen

l. And if **you are a believer** and you have not been experiencing Joy. Maybe what you need to do is do like David did in Psalm 51:10-12. He sinned and confessed it to God. (I recommend you read the whole Psalm)

*¹⁰Create in me a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

*¹¹Do not cast me from your presence
or take your Holy Spirit from me.*

*¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.”*

Ask God to “RESTORE THE JOY OF YOUR SALVATION. The Joy He gave you when You first met Him and became your Lord and Savior.