

Luke 2:1-20 The Story of Joy
Calvary Chapel Titusville 12/24/25
Pastor Paul Andris

The world was about to receive the Light of the World!

And it came to pass in those days [that] a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. (Luke 2:1 NKJV)

History is never “out of control”—it’s always under control.

This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. (Luke 2:2-3 NKJV)

God Became Flesh.

Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, (Luke 2:4 NKJV)

The Bread of Life entered our world.

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, [Though] you are little among the thousands of Judah, [Yet] out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth [are] from of old, From everlasting." (Micah 5:2 NKJV)

God keeps His promises, even when His providence feels inconvenient.

to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. (Luke 2:5-6 NKJV)

God is never late—He’s just never rushed.

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. (Luke 2:7 NKJV)

If you’re looking for what God is like, don’t start with a throne—start with a manger.

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9 NKJV)

He truly understands you.

For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all [points] tempted as [we are, yet] without sin. (Hebrews 4:15 NKJV)

God didn’t shout love from heaven—He showed love on earth.

Heaven Interrupts the Night

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. (Luke 2:8 NKJV)

Grace goes first to the lowly, so nobody can brag they deserved it.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. (Luke 2:9 NKJV)

The majesty of God isn’t just impressive; it’s overwhelming.

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. (Luke 2:10 NKJV)

Christianity isn’t good advice; it’s good news.

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11 NKJV)

The gospel is personal invitation.

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"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12 NKJV)

If Jesus is only a teacher, you can ignore Him; if He's the Savior, you must receive Him.

"And this [will be] the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." (Luke 2:12 NKJV)

The "sign" isn't power; it's humility.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Luke 2:13-14 NKJV)

Peace on earth starts when war in the human heart ends.

The First Evangelists

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." (Luke 2:15 NKJV)

The gospel demands a response—not applause.

And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen [Him], they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. (Luke 2:16-17 NKJV)

God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called.

And all those who heard [it] marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. (Luke 2:18 NKJV)

Wonder is the soil where worship grows.

But Mary kept all these things and pondered [them] in her heart. (Luke 2:19 NKJV)

The cradle was always aimed at the cross.

Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them. (Luke 2:20 NKJV)

The proof you've met Jesus is not that you escape your life, rather you re-enter it worshipping.

The cradle leads to the cross, and the cross leads to the crown.