

## The Gospels

### Are We Listening

### **Message Delivered**

Luke 2:8-11 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> **An angel of the Lord appeared to them**, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:13-14 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

#### **Affirmation**

Luke 3:21-22 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased."

#### Aware

Luke 4:16-21 (NIV®)

<sup>16</sup> He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. <sup>17</sup> The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: <sup>18</sup> "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, <sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." <sup>20</sup> Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, <sup>21</sup> and he began by saying to them, "**Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.**"

#### **Insider Information**

Luke 10:18-20 (NIV®)

He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

19 I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you.

20 However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

# **More Messengers**

Luke 24:1-8 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>1</sup> On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went

to the tomb. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: <sup>7</sup> 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again." <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words.

## **Unique to Luke**

#### Zacchaeus — power to change

Luke 19:7-10 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>7</sup> All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'" <sup>8</sup> But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount." <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, "**Today salvation has come to this house**, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> **For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost.**"

### Good Samaritan — unlikely servants

Luke 10:25-30 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" <sup>26</sup> "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" <sup>27</sup> He answered:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>28</sup> "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." <sup>29</sup> But **he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"** In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead."

## Mary/Martha — what are you focused on?

Luke 10:38-42 (NIV®)

<sup>38</sup> As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. <sup>39</sup> She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. <sup>40</sup> But **Martha was distracted** by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" <sup>41</sup> "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, <sup>42</sup> but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

# Road to Emmaus — are you listening?

Luke 24:18-27 (NIV<sup>®</sup>)

"Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?"

19 "What things?" he asked. "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied. "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. 20 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21 but **we had hoped that he was the one** who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. 22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They

went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup> but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." <sup>25</sup> He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

#### **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Word to guide me. Give me an understanding heart that I may know You better. I choose to believe, to put my faith in Almighty God and His Son Jesus, to cooperate with the Holy Spirit. I yield myself to Your purposes and choose to cooperate with the truth. May Your power deliver me from every hindrance and establish me in paths of righteousness, in Jesus' name. Amen.

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