

The Best News Ever

Luke 2.11: *Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you...* This is the high point of redemptive history. This is the best news ever! A deliverer, the Messiah, has come to save sinners from the fires of eternal hell. Jesus came to be the Savior of the world. This quarter as we think about why people follow Jesus... the message of salvation is at the heart of it. Why did they drop everything and follow Him? Why did we? The simple answer is that He came and took our place ... meeting the punishment for our sin.

I. Luke 2.1-7 - The Birth of Jesus

- A. 2.1-5: Joseph/Mary Travel to Nazareth
 - 1. 2.4 - Joseph/Mary lived in Nazareth ... traveled to Bethlehem to register for a census.
 - 2. 2.5-6 - Mary is with him ... not far from giving birth.
- B. 2.6-7 - The Birth of Jesus
 - 1. Luke 2.7: **Mary** gave birth to her firstborn son, and she wrapped him tightly in cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.
- C. 2.10: The proclamation of good news. *But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people..."*
- D. There has never been anything more monumental ... than the coming of the Son of God!

II. 2.8-10 - The Message of Good News

- A. 2.8 - Who was the first to receive?
 - 1. **Shepherds** were staying out in the fields and keeping watch at night over their flock.
 - 2. Shepherds? They were: insignificant, uneducated, and unskilled.
 - a) Luke 4.18-19 - Jesus came to preach to the **poor**, to outcasts...
 - b) Luke 15.1-2 - In His ministry he was often with the outcasts, **tax collectors**, prostitutes, drunkards, sinners...
- B. 2.9 - An Angel Appears
 - 1. Then an **angel** of the Lord stood before them, ...
 - 2. ...The **glory** of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.
 - a) Don't just read over that and move on. It's significant.
 - b) How long had it been since any person had seen it?
- C. 2.10 - A Message of Grace
 - 1. *But the angel said to them, Don't be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you **good news** of great **joy** that will be for all the people:*
 - 2. That should produce within us an inexpressible joy. See 1 Peter 1.3-4; 8-9.

III. Luke 2.11 - The Extent of the Good News

- A. The Big Picture
 - 1. Luke 2.10: ...good news of great joy that will be for **all** the people:
 - 2. Foretold in prophecy: See Isaiah 9.2; 42.6; 60.1-3.
- B. The Little Picture
 - 1. Luke 2.11: *Today in the city of David a Savior was born **for you**, who is the Messiah, the Lord.*
 - 2. It's personal. It's individual. He is the savior of everyone who chooses to believe.

IV. As We Close...

- A. Jesus Gives us Hope. *A Savior was born for you...*
- B. Jesus did what we could not do. He took the wrath and bore the pain.
- C. Whatever situation you find yourself in today, you can be delivered.