RETURN TO THE KING OF CHRISTMAS

Part 3 of Series: King In A Manger

December 17th & 18th, 2022

Pastor Kerry Shook

"At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn Son. She wrapped Him snugly in strips of cloth and laid Him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them."

Luke 2:1-7 (NLT)

"But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

2 Corinthians 11:3 (NKJV)

"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)

"For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given..."

Isaiah 9:6 (NKJV)

"You will sow much seed in the field but you will harvest little, because locusts will devour it."

Deuteronomy 28:38 (NIV)

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity. Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing—grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God."

Joel 2:12-14 (NIV)

RETURN HUMBLY TO THE KING OF CHRISTMAS

"Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Joel 2:12 (NIV)

RESTORE THE GENEROSITY OF CHRISTMAS

"...and leave behind a blessing-- grain offerings and drink offerings for the Lord your God." Joel 2:14b (NIV)

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test Me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it."

Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

"Don't tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead."

Joel 2:13a (NLT)

• RECLAIM THE BLESSINGS OF CHRISTMAS

"I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten..."

Joel 2:25a (NKJV)