

POV: A Christmas Perspective⁴ “A Star is Born”

I don't remember my birth, but I'm sure it was a pretty big deal. That's what I keep telling myself (and family) every year at least. Not sure if you've ever thought much about it, but birth is an incredible process! Watching something or someone be born is life changing. It's a process (or miracle) that happens 371, 520 times a day (according to Siri)! Never has there been a more unique conception and birth as what we witness in Luke 2. I mean, watching my own children be born was incredible, but there were no angels that I could see proclaiming their births to the nearby shepherds. The only people that cared were our family and friends and it was me who told them and unfortunately, I'm not very angelic. At just the right moment in history, God fleshed out His redemptive plan for all of “fleshy” humanity. The angels understood what a glorious event it was and the impact it would have on the planet and that it was God Who was responsible! They sang “Glory to God in the Highest”...now, just what does that mean? How do we “glorify” someone? How do we or what brings glory to God? Does it take a Savior being born or can we glorify Him anytime and always?

Luke 2:1-14 NAS

1 Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.

2 This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

3 And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.

4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,

5 in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

6 While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.

7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8 In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.

10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people;

11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 "This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

13 And suddenly there appeared 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 men with whom He is pleased."

What we learn about the delivery

- A census was taken by the ruling Roman Empire.
- This event was what took Joseph and pregnant Mary to Bethlehem; this was a fulfillment of prophecy.
- Since there was no room for the family in the inn, a stable would have to do. It was such a humble scene for a humble entry into the world.
- Jesus' first crib was a feeding trough; this "repurposing" worked perfectly.

What we learn about the delivery notification

- When the angels showed up to announce the delivery of the Savior of the world, the shepherds were terrified until the terrific news came!
- The angels brought news for them and everyone; the breaking news was "A Savior has just been born!"
- Here's your sign: The Savior is in a manger; wrapped in just some cloths!
- Following this simple announcement, a multitude of angels, in unison, made this grand statement: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.

What we can take away and live with

- The angels announced the greatest delivery notification of all time.
- This announcement was good news for all people; still is.
- Amazon may send out more gifts, but the church is still to announce the greatest delivery of all time to all people.
- Jesus is simply and wonderfully packaged to save the world from their sin and hell.

Bottom Line - A BIG God often reveals Himself in a simple way.