

The Christ Has Come: Our Savior is Born!

Introduction:

Around 140 million babies are born in the world every year - that's around four babies every second! Around 4 million of those births, which account for approximately 3% of the total births, are in America; around 400,000 of those babies were born in Texas, with 40,000 being born in DFW. But if you talk to any mom or dad, they would say that the birth of their child was the most important one of the year - and they are right!! In this Christmas season, we get to dwell on the most important birth of all time: Jesus Christ!

- He is the Savior of the world!
- He is the Christ!
- He is the Lord!
- He is the fulfillment of the promises of God!

Luke 2:1-20 tells the story of this baby boy, Jesus, being brought into the world and moving all around Him to praise God saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among people with whom He is pleased!" **This Christmas season, we praise and glorify God by telling of all we have seen and heard of Jesus, Christ the Lord.**

Let us read this story together in Luke 2:1-20 and move our hearts to praise once again surrounding Jesus our Messiah - today, we celebrate this special baby who would come into the world to bring salvation to all!

Body:

Let's start by reading this passage in its fullness and dwelling in the joy that this story brings us and the whole world.

Read Luke 2:1-20 (ESV)

What an amazing story of the baby Jesus who would come into the world bringing glory, salvation, and peace with Him! Praise Immanuel, "God among us"! Hallelujah to God in the highest and among us on earth! Let's dive in deeper and feast on this text together in this season Christmas season by looking at verse 1-7.

What is the significance of the birthplace of Jesus in v3? Bethlehem, the city of David, was the place of King David's family - it was where a little shepherd boy, the youngest and least of his family, would be chosen and anointed to be the King of Israel in 1 Samuel 16. David, who would be considered the greatest Israelite king in Israel's history, a "man after God's own heart", knew that his place was one of humble service to the LORD; David was a foreshadow of the true King of Israel, one that God prophesied would come from the "root of Jesse" and establish the throne, house, and Kingdom of David forever. Do you remember what Gabriel told Mary about the coming Jesus in Luke 1:32-33?

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." -Luke 1:32-33

All signs pointed to Jesus bringing salvation! It is almost as if the very earth itself was exploding with praise at the birth of this baby boy. This small, nothing town of Bethlehem, a place for no one other than humble shepherds, was marked as significant because of what God brought from it through a shepherd boy named David, but even greater through the coming shepherd king name Jesus.

This would baffle any who even **knew** of Bethlehem! It was so small of a town, so insignificant, so easy to look over... it was like a "drive through" town that you drive through on a road trip. There are no lights, maybe no gas station, and you might even find yourself wondering how people even live there. But God loves to use unexpected people, places and things for His praise, doesn't He?! Micah 5:2 shows us how if the people were truly expectant for their Messiah, they wouldn't be that surprised from little ol' Bethlehem being used for God's purposes.

"But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days."

The One who was "coming forth from old, ancient days" would appear from Bethlehem which was "too little to be among the clans of Judah" - what would that world of the Roman Empire have been like, waiting for the coming King who would save all? This coming King, the most important baby to ever be born, would be born in

little ol' Bethlehem! God examples through this that it is not about where you come from, but who you're connected to; a lowly town could produce the Savior of the world and a lowly human like me could experience true life through knowing Him intimately! Hallelujah! Praise be to God! Our Savior has been born.

Acknowledging Him today, whether for the first time or in continuation, is to praise Him and live into the salvation that He came to bring - this praise naturally leads to giving God glory!

Our Savior is Born: Give Him Glory! (Luke 2:8-14)

As we move into the next part of the story in v8, we see shepherds in a field at night, keeping watch over their flock. Culturally, understand that shepherds were some of the lowest standing people in society. They were outside of the city, away from others, smelling like sheep and the outdoors... they were not the ones who were celebrated or invited to the parties. In v9, the most unexpected thing happens to the shepherds, one that they would have never predicted... suddenly, an angel of the Lord appears to them (v9) and the glory of the Lord shines around them!! Can you imagine this scene? Me, personally, I would have responded exactly the same way that the shepherds did at the end of v9... with fear!😨 While the shepherds would have been no doubt amazed that an angel would appear to them, they would have been even more awe struck at what the angel would tell them before **anyone else** - that **their** Savior was born! Verse 10 shows the angel declaring that there is no need to be afraid because he is bringing "good news of great joy" for "all the people"... including these lowly shepherds! Wow! Are you in need to hear good news of great joy? This announcement is for **you** during this season of Christmas!

Read Luke 2:11-12.

This good new of great joy for all people is a baby boy!! But not just any baby boy...

- "**Χριστός**" - **The Messiah, the Anointed One**. This title was one given to prophets (1 Kings 19:16), priests (Leviticus 4:5), and kings (1 Samuel 16:13), who were anointed with oil for their position and purpose. Jesus was born as the ultimate "Anointed One", who will be a prophet, a priest, and a King.

- **"κύριος" - Lord, "one who is in position of authority."** Jesus was announced as the Lord, meaning he came into the world carrying authority from "days of old" - His authority came from Him being God, The Anointed One, the Lord of all.
- **"Χριστός κύριος" - Christ the Lord.** This miraculous baby was announced as Christ the Lord, affirmed through His birth in the city of David through the virgin Mary, fulfilling many prophecies and promises of the Savior of the world.

Isn't this good news, Fellowship?! The Anointed One, the Lord of all, Jesus Christ the Lord, was born into this world 2,000 years ago! He came to save **all the people** and not leave us in our sin; He came to heal the sick and restore the sight of the blind; He came to teach love and truth; He came to give Himself as the sacrificial lamb for our sin! When we truly understand what the angel is saying, this moves us to echo what happens next in **verse 13-14**.

This knowledge moves the angels to burst forth and praise God by saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among people with whom he is pleased!"

They are extending glory and peace toward God!

- **"δόξα" - Glory or "honor as enhancement or recognition of status or performance, fame, recognition, renown, honor, prestige."** These angels recognize the status of God the Father sending God the Son - they are worthy of all prestige and praise! They are worthy of every doxology! They are worthy all every honor!
- **"εἰρήνη" - Peace or "a state of well-being."** A major mark of the messianic kingdom is peace on earth, which hasn't been experienced since the fall of mankind in Genesis 3. This Messiah was coming to bring peace to those on earth who would follow His reign and rule. This peace isn't just a still moment - it's a reconciling between sinful humanity and a Holy God; it is a peace that brings a sinner like me close to a Savior like Jesus; it is a peace that is available to every person, including yourself, at any time through Christ alone.

I want you to think of a person in your life, either current or in the past, that you immensely respect. Maybe they helped raise you or walked with you through a hard

time; maybe it is someone that you watched go through a season of life and handle it with grace and truth; maybe it is a man or woman who has shown you what it looks like to pursue Christ... in fact, this quality often brings a culture of peace along with it. Do you have that person in your mind? Good! Now I want you to imagine that person is coming to your home. Aware of the honor they deserve, the peace that they bring with them, the impact they have had on your life... how would you prepare to receive them? My guess is that you would sweep the floors, light the candles, fix their favorite meal, and create an atmosphere that communicated to them just how much they mean to you. For me, those people happen to be my parents... and I love when I get changes to honor them! I want to do everything in my power to help them feel recognized, cherished, and loved.

Even more so, isn't our God worthy of glory, honor, recognition, and praise than any human ever born? Amen! As you journey through this season, join in the angels song of praise and give God all the glory!

Our Savior is Born: Tell the Story! (Luke 2:15-20)

Although it is a fun way to do it, giving praise and glory to God doesn't **just** come through song... so if you're not musically talented, don't worry - there is hope to unabashedly join in! 😊 The shepherds respond in their own way of praising and glorifying God in v15-20 - by telling of all they have seen and heard!

Read 2:15-20.

As they had been told by the angel in v12 (do you see that?), there was a baby lying in a manger in Bethlehem... and when they tell all there what they had been told concerning this child (remember v10-11?), there were two responses:

1. Some wondered at what the shepherds told them. (v18)
2. Mary treasured the things the shepherds told them, pondering them in her heart. (v19)

As we hear the story of the birth of the Savior of all, Christ the Lord, Jesus, we will be led to one of two responses:

1. We hear this story of Jesus and wonder about it... could it be true? Was He really the Savior of the world? Is He just as much for me as He was for those in His day and age?
2. We hear this story of Jesus and treasure it in our hearts... could it be true? Was He really the Savior of the world? Hallelujah!

In both responses, there is an invitation to engage in the truth that this special baby boy born 2,000 years ago still is:

1. Good news of great joy!
2. For all people!
3. The Savior!
4. Christ the Lord!
5. Jesus!

Where does this leave us today? Where do these responses take us?

Restatement of HP & Application:

This Christmas season, **we praise and glorify God by telling of all we have seen and heard of Jesus, Christ the Lord.**

What could this practically look like? There are three ways we can praise and glorify God in this Christmas season. For each one, we will have a response!

1. Join **Mary's worship** by treasuring these things of Jesus in your heart.

Let take two minutes to worship God through treasuring the beauty of Jesus in our hearts.

2. Join **the angel's praise** by singing boldly of the glory that God deserves and the peace that Jesus brought!

Let's do this as a congregation right now, singing boldly together of the glory and peace that Jesus brought!

3. Join **the shepherd's response** by telling those in your circles of all you've seen and heard of Jesus Christ.

As we leave here today, let's declare the shout of the angels in verse 14 three times, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among people with whom he is pleased!"

Among the billions of babies born in the history of the world, there is only one that has ever been born a Savior: His name was, is, and will always be Jesus. Go in peace... and **praise and glorify God by telling of all you have seen and heard of Jesus, Christ the Lord.**



ADVENT

T H E C H R I S T H A S C O M E



THE CHRIST HAS COME: OUR SAVIOR IS BORN!



**WE PRAISE AND GLORIFY GOD BY TELLING OF ALL WE HAVE SEEN
AND HEARD OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD.**

OUR SAVIOR IS BORN: GIVE HIM PRAISE! (LUKE 2:1-7)

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

LUKE 2:1-7 (ESV)



32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

LUKE 1:32-33 (ESV)

2 But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

MICAH 5:2 (ESV)



OUR SAVIOR IS BORN: GIVE HIM GLORY! (LUKE 2:8-14)

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

LUKE 2:8-10 (ESV)

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

LUKE 2:11-12 (ESV)

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

LUKE 2:8-10 (ESV)

13 And suddenly there was 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 those with whom he is pleased!”

LUKE 2:13-14 (ESV)



"ΧΡΙΣΤΌΣ" - THE MESSIAH, THE ANOINTED ONE.

"ΧΡΙΣΤΌΣ" - THE MESSIAH, THE ANOINTED ONE.

"ΚΎΡΙΟΣ" - LORD, "ONE WHO IS IN POSITION OF AUTHORITY."

"ΧΡΙΣΤΉΟΣ" - THE MESSIAH, THE ANOINTED ONE.

"ΚΎΡΙΟΣ" - LORD, "ONE WHO IS IN POSITION OF AUTHORITY."

"ΧΡΙΣΤΉΟΣ ΚΎΡΙΟΣ" - CHRIST THE LORD.



OUR SAVIOR IS BORN: TELL THE STORY! (LUKE 2:15-20)

15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” **16** And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. **17** And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. **18** And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. **20** And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

LUKE 2:15-20 (ESV)

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY!

FOR ALL PEOPLE!

THE SAVIOR!

CHRIST THE LORD!

JESUS!



**WE PRAISE AND GLORIFY GOD BY TELLING OF ALL WE HAVE SEEN
AND HEARD OF JESUS CHRIST THE LORD.**



**JOIN MARY'S WORSHIP BY TREASURING THE TRUTHS
SURROUNDING JESUS IN YOUR HEART.**

**JOIN MARY'S WORSHIP BY TREASURING THE TRUTHS
SURROUNDING JESUS IN YOUR HEART.**

**JOIN THE ANGEL'S PRAISE BY SINGING BOLDLY OF THE GLORY
THAT GOD DESERVES AND THE PEACE THAT JESUS BROUGHT!**

**JOIN MARY'S WORSHIP BY TREASURING THE TRUTHS
SURROUNDING JESUS IN YOUR HEART.**

**JOIN THE ANGEL'S PRAISE BY SINGING BOLDLY OF THE GLORY
THAT GOD DESERVES AND THE PEACE THAT JESUS BROUGHT!**

**JOIN THE SHEPHERD'S RESPONSE BY TELLING THOSE IN YOUR
CIRCLE ALL YOU'VE SEEN AND HEARD REGARDING JESUS CHRIST.**

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

LUKE 2:20 (ESV)