

Christmas News

Intro:

Mal 3:1; 4:5-6

Israel knew what it felt like to want some good news - 400 years of silence

Problem:

Lk 1:8-23

After 400 years of silence,
400 years of unimportant news,
400 years of fake news,
400 years of irrelevant news
Came the good news of Christmas

It was Important news

It was Real news

It was personal news

It still is...

Paul moves on to the real problem behind their division and disorder - their neglect of the gospel

Main Idea:

The Gospel is not only good news

it is important news

It is real news

it is personal news

Implication:

Lk 2:8-14

Christmas is about more than a manger it is about the gospel

Which means that

Christmas is not only good news...

Application:

Christmas is important news - Do not sentimentalize it

Christmas is real news - Do not mythologize it

Christmas is personal news - Do not impersonalize it

Articles for further study:

<https://www.boundless.org/faith/have-we-missed-the-gospel-at-christmas/>

<https://blog.tms.edu/the-gospel-according-to-christmas-carols>

<https://bibleproject.com/learn/gospel-word-study/>

Christmas News

Text:

The Gospel is not only good news

It is important news

1Corinthians 15:1 ¶ Now I would remind you, brothers, of **the gospel I preached to you**, which you **received**, in which you stand (perfect- in which you have stood and are still standing),

1Corinthians 15:2 and by which you are being saved (present passive), if (first class - since) you hold fast to **the word I preached to you**—unless you believed in vain.

1Corinthians 15:3a ¶ For I delivered to you as of **first importance** what I also **received**:

1 cor 1:17-18 (this news matters- it is the power of God)

1 cor 1:21-24 (this news matters - it is the wisdom of God)

1 cor 2:1-5 (this news matters - it is the testimony of God)

rom 1:16-17 (first importance)

gal 1:3-9 (which you received)

col 2:20-23 (unless you believed in vain)

*col 1:15-23 (the gospel is important news - and it has everything to do with Christmas
it is of primary importance - Christmas is about important news)*

It is real news

1 Corinthians 15:3b that Christ died for our sins **in accordance with the Scriptures**,

1Corinthians 15:4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day **in accordance with the Scriptures**,

1Corinthians 15:5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

1Corinthians 15:6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.

1Corinthians 15:7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

1Corinthians 15:8 Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

1 jn 1:1-4 (he was seen- the Gospel is an event...it is real news...but it is not new news)

Acts 8:32-35 (Isaiah 52:13-53:12 - in accordance with the Scriptures)

acts 13:32-37 (psalm 16:10 ; 55:3 - in accordance with the Scriptures)

lk 9:22; 13:32; 18:33; 24:7, 21, 46 (in accordance of the Scriptures???)

*(Hosea 6:1-3; Esther 4:7-5:2; 2 kings 20:5, 8; josh 3:1-3; ex 19:10-11, 16; (yes)
gen 22:1-14 (on the third day he could see it from afar...))*

jn 3:16 (the gospel is real news - and it has everything to do with Christmas - Christmas is real news)

It is personal news

1Corinthians 15:9 For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

1Corinthians 15:10 But by **the grace of God** I am what I am, and **his grace** toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but **the grace of God** that is with me.

1Corinthians 15:11 Whether then it was I or they, **so we preach and so you believed**.

*1 Tim 1:12-17 (the gospel is personal news - and it has everything to do with Christmas -
Christmas is personal news)*

Application Questions

MESSAGE RECEIVED
(Do you understand what you learned?)

- What is the main point of this message? (Could you summarize it in your own words?)
- What is something new that you learned?
 - What was your knowledge in this area before you heard this message?
 - Any change you will make in your daily life based upon this new knowledge?
- What reference verse stands out to you and why?
- How did this message encourage you? Why do you think that is?
- Did the message pair with your weekly bible reading in any way?
- What is a struggle you had with this message? It's content or it's application?
- What are some truths that stand out to you in this message?
 - Any life testimonies that you can think of that are good examples of these truths?
- What character/attribute of God stands out to you the most in this message and why?
 - Any specific verse that puts this attribute on display?

MESSAGE APPLIED
(What are you going to do with what you learned?)

Culture

- What are the lies of the world/devil that we need to be aware of that are antithetical to this message?
- What do you think the cultural animosity is towards this message if we apply it rightly?

Church

- How do you see this message impacting the church corporately? (locally/globally)
 - What prayers would be good to pray for the church body based on this message?

Individual

- Is there a sin in your life that this message convicted you of?
 - Why do you think this was a blind spot in your sanctification before this message?
- How did the message address any specific life circumstance you are going through right now?

- Select two questions from the below list and write down your answer to them:
 - How does this message change or impact your:
 - Prayer Life?
 - Evangelism?
 - Bible Reading?
 - Christian Relationships?
 - Non-Christian relationships?
 - Parenting?
 - Role as a Husband/Wife?
 - Workplace?
- **How have you been changed by this message? What is your one memorable takeaway. If I ask you “How did God sanctify you through the preaching of this message, how would you respond?”**