



## “A Savior Is Born”



“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David;) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, ‘Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.’” (Luke 2:4-11)



This is the message of Christmas, “a Savior is born!” It is God’s message to the world and it has not changed in 2,000 years. “Don’t be afraid. This is good news of great joy for all people.” Not only was the angel saying, “Don’t be afraid” because of the bright light shining around them and because of seeing an angel – it was saying to all of us that we don’t have to be afraid of anything, because we have a Savior who can save us from all harm in this life and take us to be with Him forever in the next life.

On that cold, bleak hillside outside of Bethlehem, those shepherds did not have a clue about what a Savior does. But, we know because we have the Bible that records what our Savior, Christ the Lord, does for us:

- He rescues us from all danger and suffering
- Delivers us from evil
- Heals our sicknesses and infirmities
- Protects us from harm
- Guards and defends us
- Forgives all of our sin, past, present and future
- Defeats all of our enemies
- Redeems us from death and hell
- Rescues, saves and delivers out of darkness into the Kingdom of God
- Shares His eternal inheritance from God with us as joint heirs
- Gives us eternal life
- And has made a place for us to sit with Him in heaven

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The angel went on to say to the shepherds, *“And this shall be proof to you; You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”* (Luke 2:12-14) God intended that the coming of a Savior would bring peace and goodness on the earth. He was showing the world His undying love for them by sending His own son. At that time, God’s love had been rejected by the world that He had loved for 4,000 years. He thought, “Surely they will love Me now, when they see I have sent My only Son to save them.” This became the most famous and best known verse in the Bible: *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”* (John 3:16)



God’s plan was that the world would glorify and honor Him and then there would be peace (absence from strife) on the earth and good will (goodness and mercy) to all people. But, once again the world rejected Him and turned away – bringing strife and a troubled mind into their life. But, those who have chosen to believe in Jesus as the Son of God, and have accepted Him as their Savior are enjoying all the blessings of the promises of God for their lives, and looking forward with joy and expectation to living forever surrounded by beauty, peace and joy!!

Christmas began by being a church service to celebrate the birth of Christ, the Son of God. And, although the word “Christmas” is not in the Bible it has been celebrated with joy since early church services 2,000 years ago. It never began with all the added customs and traditions of today. Now even those who do not believe in Jesus, and reject God, celebrate the worldly Christmas traditions. They enjoy the holiday, not knowing they are saying “holy day.”

While the world without God celebrates the birth of Christ, with wild office parties, Santa Claus, and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, we who are called by the name of Christ celebrate His miraculous birth, in that humble stable in Bethlehem, in our hearts – knowing we have been given the greatest gift we can ever receive – the gift of God Himself come to earth to save us. If we never received another gift, we have it all!!!

*“Thus says the Lord that created you, and He that formed you, ‘Oh (put your name here), Fear not; for I have redeemed you, I have called you by your name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters (of waste places), I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you; when you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior’...”* (Isaiah 43:1-3)

We have a Savior, Christ the Lord!  
 God clothed in human flesh!  
 Immanuel = God with us! Hallelujah!



## *“A Savior Is Born”*

Take this time to share what Christmas means to each of you.

Talk about the baby in the manger being the same sign to you that it was to the shepherds that night. It was proof that what the angels said was true. Let your hearts return to that manger and the reassurance that a Savior is truly born – your Savior and that of your children.

Review among yourselves all of the things that having a Savior does for us.

Then check and see if you are believing and walking in all of those things that He does. If not, why not? Is fear holding you back even though God Himself said, “*Don’t be afraid.*”?

Your memory verse is (John 3:16) “*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*” Say it aloud together. If you don’t know it, read it and memorize it. It’s your love note from your heavenly Father who loves you unconditionally, unchangeably, and forever and ever! Amen.

## *Merry Christmas*