

## THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRISTMAS

Luke 2:10-11 “. . .the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”

How do you receive news? Do you watch the noon news, evening news, 10:00 p.m. news? Social media is the source of news for many today. There are countless ways to receive news.

Most of the daily news, at least on the public air waves, is not good news. It is filled with reports of murders, misconduct, brutality, theft, sexual abuse and a host of other crimes. Several of the public media stations try to end each broadcast with at least one segment with good news. It is usually a “feel good,” positive human-interest feature.

God made sure that the announcement of Jesus’ birth was done in a proper manner. He sent an Angel to deliver the “GOOD NEWS” of His Son’s birth. The Bible says God’s “GOOD NEWS” was delivered by an Angel to shepherds out in the field watching their sheep. Can you imagine an Angel of God appearing to you in the dead of night? Can you imagine their reaction when the shepherds heard the Angel tell them, “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord?”

You must remember devout Jews knew God’s promise that He would send the Savior. They had, however, been waiting a long, long time. So, to speak, out of the clear blue the Angel appeared to the deliver God’s GOOD NEWS to these shepherds. And, then, to hear the host of Angel’s, a chorus as no one on earth had ever heard, sing the hallelujah chorus, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” (Luke 2:13)

This news was no “puff piece.” It was the most extraordinary news imaginable. God’s promise of a Savior was fulfilled. Jesus had come into the world as God had said He would. This is God’s GOOD NEWS to you today. It is God’s message to all people as long as this world continues to exist. Talk about GOOD NEWS! “For to you is born this day . . . a Savior, who is Christ (the promised one) THE LORD.” This is GOOD NEWS indeed!

Prayer: O Lord, through Your holy word, I have heard the announcement of Your Good News, again this Christmas. Send Your Spirit into my heart to grant me faith to take this Good News into my heart, believe it and be assured by it that through Jesus I have Your forgiveness and promise of everlasting life in heaven. Amen.

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the Mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:     Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
              Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heav'nly song? Refrain:

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. Refrain:  
(LSB 368)