

## THE GREATEST BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT EVER!!

(Luke 2:8-20)

When a new born is received into a family, there is often the desire to share this good news with many others.

Today there seems to be a variety of ways this news is announced. Birth announcements to be mailed, balloons on the mailbox, local newspapers, signs in the front yard: "it's a girl!" And even the hiring an airplane to circle with a sign tagged on the back. With our first born, I bought suckers announcing our new little girl, and gave to all. From an earthly view, the birth of the greatest One ever, seemed to go almost totally unnoticed. Jesus was born in obscurity, yet, it was not right that His birth should go unrecognized. And so it would not...God would over rule. Heaven could not and would keep silent about the birth of Jesus. For God sent an angel, and then millions of to announce the birth of Jesus and to joyfully celebrate the event by giving God all the glory.

### TWO RESPONSES TO JESUS' BIRTH CALLING ALL OF US TO RECEIVE HIM AS LORD AND SAVIOR. "for a Savior is born to YOU."

#### I. Heaven Could Not Remain Silent About The Birth Of Their Creator, Jesus.

(vv.8-14) There must have been a lot of excitement watching God rescue fallen men and women.

- A. The setting for the announcement is the field near Bethlehem, where shepherds were caring for their sheep.
  1. Perhaps these were the lambs to be slaughtered at the temple?
  2. The sheep needed to be protected from thieves and wild animals. The sheepfold...
- B. Shepherds were considered at the bottom of the society, only the lepers were lower. Yet, God first brought the announcement of Jesus' birth to them. They were the working-class sinners. It shows us that the Gospel is for all. Not just for "good people."
- C. All of a sudden, an unnamed angel appears and announces to the shepherds the good news.
  1. Also, the angel shone with God's glory, for he had been in His presence.
  2. This terrified the shepherds. "they feared with great fear." (vv.9-10)  
The angel said: "don't be afraid" (only natural) , "I bring good news...great joy..."
  3. This news would not be for all people everywhere, but for all THE PEOPLE.  
This includes Israel. It includes all who would be saved, from Adam till the end.  
This is not good news for those who reject Jesus as their Savior.
- D. The Angel does more than tell of the birth, he further tells the significance of it. (v.11)  
This is personal, "this One was born to YOU." Note the Child's identity:
  1. This One is the Savior. He is the ultimate deliverer for mankind.
  2. He is the Christ. Not His name, but refers to His title. He is the promised Messiah.

