

Fear Not

Lesson Four • Luke 2:1-20

Fear Not, Shepherds

The Good News of Jesus' Birth

The shepherds go from sheer TERROR of seeing God's glory to great JOY of hearing the good news of Jesus' birth.

The Good News of Jesus' Birth

1. Jesus' Birth Was Announced to the SHEPHERDS!

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Luke 2:8-9

The Unlikelihood of the Shepherds

Shepherds were one of the most DESPISED and disrespected groups of people at this time in Jewish history.

2. Jesus' Birth Is GOOD NEWS of Great Joy!

Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12

What Is the Good News of Great Joy?

It's about the birth of a SAVIOR, but it also includes a death and resurrection.

3. Jesus' Birth Means God's GLORY and Our PEACE!

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 2:13-14

Fear Not, a Savior Is Born!

FEAR of God is replaced by PEACE with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. Romans 3:20-24 NIV

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1 NIV

A Savior Is Born! Now What?

Do as the shepherds did: WITNESS and WORSHIP.

So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ... Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them. Luke 2:15-17, 20