

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018

MORNING MESSAGE

“What If Jesus Had Never Been Born? – There Would Be No Peace”

Luke 2: 13-14

- I. THE MESSENGERS OF PEACE (v.13)
 - A. The angel who was introduced in verse 9 is joined by a multitude of angels
 1. “Suddenly” suggests they burst onto the scene unexpectedly
 2. “Multitude” suggests an innumerable amount
 3. “Praising” is only found nine times in scripture and is always directed toward God
 - a. Isaiah 6:3, “And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory”
 - b. Revelation 5:11-12, “And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing”
 - B. Who are the messengers of peace today?
 1. Matthew 28:18-20, “And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth, go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”
 2. Acts 1:8, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth”
- II. THE MESSAGE OF PEACE (v.14)
 - A. The message of the angels was “and on earth peace, good will toward men”
 1. It is not a message of universal peace
 2. It is a message of individual peace
 3. Peace is not a promise to all, but a possibility for all
- III. THE MEANS OF PEACE (vv.13-14)
 - A. The means of peace is God Himself
 1. In verse 13 the angels are praising God
 2. In verse 14 the angels are giving glory to God
 3. Who is that baby lying in a manger?
 - a. 2 Corinthians 5:19, “To wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself”
 - B. Jesus is the means to peace with God
 1. John 14:6, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me”
 2. Acts 4:12, “There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”

3. 1 Timothy 4:2, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ"
- C. Jesus is the means to the peace of God
1. Philippians 4:7, "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts, and minds through Christ Jesus"
 2. Such peace comes through prevailing prayer
 3. Philippians 4:6, "Be careful nor nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your request be made known to God"
- D. 800 years before Jesus was born the prophet Isaiah gave four lofty names to Jesus
1. Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace"
 - a. "Prince" means the leader or commander
 - b. "Peace" is the Hebrew word "Shalom", which means calm, rest, or tranquility
 - c. If Jesus had never been born there would be no peace