
**“I Bring You Good News of
Great Joy!”**

Luke 2:8-20

Now it happened that in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus for a census to be taken of **all the inhabited earth**. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone was going to be registered for the census, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, **to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem**, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was betrothed to him, and was with child. Now it happened that while they were there, the days were fulfilled for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guest room.

Luke 2:1-7

In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people. For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. “And this will be the sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”

Luke 2:8-14

And it happened that when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, “**Let us go to Bethlehem then**, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.” **So they went in a hurry** and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. And when they had seen this, **they made known** the statement which had been told them about this Child. **And all who heard it marveled** at the things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary was treasuring all these things, pondering them in her heart. **And the shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as was told them.**

Luke 2:15-20

Good News of Great Joy!

- Contrast
- Action
- Reflection



Good News of Great Joy!

- Contrast
 - Empire vs. a village town
 - Caesar vs. Jesus/God
 - “Worldwide” decree vs. a visit to a local field

God defies our expectations and assumptions—

God defies our expectations and assumptions—to His Glory and our benefit!

**Our expressions of faith should be
active!**

**Our expressions of faith should be
reflective!**