Luke 2:10 NIV "Do not be afraid, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."



Afraid of where you stand with God

Luke 2:1-14 "And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. 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. 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." 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, goodwill toward men!":"

Why a Baby?

Why Shepherds?

Why a Celebration?

1. Why a Baby?

John 1:14 "and the Word became flesh..."

Hebrews 2:17 "Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people."

Hebrews 4:15 "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin."

Galatians 4:4 AMP "But when the proper time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born subject to [the regulations of] the Law,"

I Timothy 2:5 CEV "There is only one God, and Christ Jesus is the only one who can bring us to God. Jesus was truly human, and he gave himself to rescue all of us."

Jesus is the <u>bridge</u> by which God came to earth, and by which people come to Heaven.

2. Why the Shepherds?

Three reasons shepherds felt distant from God:

- 1. They felt <u>Unworthy</u>
- 2. They felt Inadequate
- 3. They felt Unloved

Romans 3:20,22 "For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are...For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard"

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."

3. Why a Celebration? (3 Reasons)

God <u>Keeps</u> His Promises

Isaiah 7:14 "...Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

God is always at Work around us

Galatians 4:4 "...when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son..."

God's Heart is revealed

Luke 4:18 "...He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives..."

I now have Hope

I Corinthians 15:22 "...In Christ all shall be made alive."