



EXPLORE THE BIBLE®

Exodus and Leviticus Sermon Series

Supports Session 4: Delivered from Sin

Sermon Title: “The Beauty of Christ’s Birth” (Luke 2:1-14)

Connection to Session 4

Luke 2:1-21 tells the story of Christ’s humble and beautiful birth. The beauty of the gospel is that we do not go up into the sky to see if God is there. We do not build a tower to the heavens. No, the beautiful story of redemption is that God has come down to us.

Introduction/Opening

What is Christianity? Some people say that it is a philosophy. Others say it is a system of ethics, or just another way to live your life. Some say that Christianity is knowledge. Certainly, Christianity includes some part of all those statements; however, at the center of Christianity is not philosophy or ethics, but rather truly knowing God and having a relationship with Him. Every single person on earth has been created by God to know Him. If you are created by God, then you are obligated to seek and know Him. How do we know that God is real? God chose to reveal Himself. In our text, we see the beautiful truth that God has come down to us in Jesus Christ, so that we might know our Creator.

Outline

I. The historical setting of Christ’s birth (Luke 2:1-5)

The Gospel writer, Luke, showed the historic truthfulness of Christ’s birth. Luke wrote this Gospel to give an “orderly sequence” (Luke 1:3). His purpose: “so that you may know the certainty of the things about which you have been instructed” (1:4).

- a. Real history (vv. 1-3)
 - i. The birth of Jesus was not some fairy tale but rather a historical event.
 - ii. Luke mentioned real historical figures so that we can be sure of the truthfulness of his account.
 - i. Application: We can be certain of Christ’s coming because it happened in history.
- b. Travel to Bethlehem (vv. 4-5)
 - i. Mary and Joseph were required to travel due to the decree of Caesar Augustus. They had to be registered.
 - ii. Although the Roman government issued this decree, it was done to fulfill Scripture. Micah 5:2 states that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.
 - i. Application: God is working in the seemingly small matters of the world. Although the Roman government issued this decree to fill

out their tax sheets, God used this decree to accomplish His plan of redemption.

II. The Messiah's humble birth (Luke 2:6-7)

Luke's description of Jesus's birth is not fancy. It reveals that Jesus was born in a lowly place. The King of the universe was born, not in a palace, but amid animals.

- a. Christ's humility
 - i. The birth of Jesus reveals the humble circumstances He was born into.
- b. Our humility
 - i. Application: We should humble ourselves before God.

III. Angelic announcement (Luke 2:8-14)

Although Jesus was born in a lowly place, His birth was announced by angels. The birth of Jesus brought great hope to the world.

- a. The lowly shepherds
 - i. Shepherds were the first to hear about the Messiah's birth.
 - ii. Shepherds were often considered part of the lower economic class. This angelic announcement showed that God "exalted the lowly" (1:52).
- b. The glory of the Lord
 - i. Along with the angelic messengers came the "glory of the Lord" (2:9).
 - ii. The light of the glory of the Lord is meant to call to mind Old Testament imagery (Ezek. 1:28).
- c. The shepherds' reaction
 - i. The shepherds were terrified. The shepherds were not men who were easily startled, but they were afraid here.
- d. Good news
 - i. The angel announced "good news" (Luke 2:10).
 - 1. This good news "will be for all the people" (v. 10)
 - 2. The Messiah, who is the Lord, has been born.
 - ii. The shepherds responded by going and telling others of this good news (vv. 17-18).
 - iii. Application: We should believe and declare this good news to all people.

Conclusion

Wonder and amazement at the good news is not enough to save you. You must have faith that this child born in Luke 2 is truly the Savior who is Christ the Lord. Faith is trusting that Jesus came to save you from your sins. Do you want to know God loves you? Look no further than the humble circumstances that He was born into. He came so we can be saved from our sins.

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