

Handout December 22, 2023

King of Angels A Christmas Story

Good Evening! This is our Christmas service as Monday we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus as will the rest of the world --- which is interesting if you think --- why would the whole world celebrate --- or even acknowledge this advent? Maybe because there is something to it!

Even more astonishing is that

1) Jesus' birth and life _____ more than _____ prophecies, hundreds of years old.

Why am I saying all of this? Because if we want to understand the relevance of Christmas, we need to understand that it is a much bigger picture than just a celebration in the United States!

Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting."

2) _____ years before, Jesus' birth was _____!

Luke 1:26-35

3) An _____ announces _____ birth _____ Mary's pregnancy.

You know it is interesting that so many angels show up in Jesus' story!

Luke 2:8-13

4) The _____ celebrated at _____ birth.

Which leads me to wonder --- why? Forget all the nations of the world. Why are the angels celebrating the actual Christmas -- the day Christ was born?

Because He is their King as well?

Hebrews 1:5-7 'For to which of the angels did He ever say: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"? And again: "I will be to Him a Father, And He shall be to Me a Son"? But when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says: "Let all the angels of God worship Him." And of the angels He says: "Who makes His angels spirits And His ministers a flame of fire."'

5) All the _____ of God _____ Him.

Where am I going with all this? Good question.

1 Peter 1:3-13 - a Heavenly Inheritance

We are promised salvation and eternal life in Heaven.... and

6) The _____ --- they want to _____ too!!

Just like you and me, what is this marvelous thing God is doing through the birth of Jesus?

Ephesians 3:8-11 'To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, '

Paul says His teachings - were teaching angels as well! Wow!

So why was Christ born --- besides to provide your salvation and give you peace on earth?

7) Christ will bring _____ in _____ and _____.

I know I don't want to move into a war zone!

Colossians 1:15-18 'He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.'

Hebrews 12:22-24 'But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are registered in heaven, to God the Judge of all, to the spirits of just men made perfect, to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel.'

8) It's not just _____ story, it's not just _____, it is all of _____!

His birth is a celebration for all.

Do you want to come to that mountain --- to that celebration?

Let's celebrate the birth of Jesus with communion and the song, Silent Night.

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