

Dr. Ron Armstrong • December 20, 2020
The King Has Come: The Message We Need

Matthew 1:22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

Luke 2:1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

³ And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city.

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

⁵ To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹ And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

¹² And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

¹⁵ And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

¹⁶ And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

A. God sends the message we need.

- 1) There is a shared experience of hearing a sermon or reading a Scripture in a group and feeling that it spoke directly to you.
- 2) Part of it is caused by God's love for and knowledge of his children.
- 3) Part of it is the work of the Holy Spirit helping you find the area of your heart to apply it to.
- 4) But there is a third part: God's creation (you) recognizes what it needs and seeks it. This allows us to hear the same words but sense a message that we need to hear.
- 5) Here is an example; "God with us." What does it mean? It depends on your need.
- 6) This isn't about just hearing what you want to hear. As you mature, you become more aware of who you are, where you struggle, and what you need. This is God's work going on in you.

B. The message everybody needed: The approachable Savior is born.

- 1) Luke is doing more than announcing the birth of the Savior; he is positioning him in relation to Caesar and us.
 - He is different from Caesar Augustus.
 - He is approachable by us.
- 2) In a manger, in a manger, and by the way, he is in a manger. Anybody can reach the manger.
- 3) The announcement is made to a bunch of shepherds. Anybody can be a shepherd.
- 4) The message was simple; "For unto you a Savior is born, which is Christ the Lord." Everybody needed to hear it.