

## PEACE

Luke 2:8-20 | Ryan Pfeiffer & Jennifer Ahl | Dec 8, 2024

**Vs14 Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.**

Advent- a special time- meditate on unique nature of the PEACE Jesus gives  
What kind of peace were the people of Israel hoping for from a Messiah?  
Israel had once been a great nation... a beacon of God's glory to the world.  
At the time of this Story... Divided... scattered... exiled... defeated nation.  
The peace they hoped the Messiah would bring was to bring back their people... restore their nation... and free them from tyranny.

God wants to do something bigger— more lasting— not just for them...

Peace: Hebrew/ shalom...

Greek is eirene. Means to make something complete... whole...

Peace is the well-being we feel when:

1. Something broken is restored...
2. Something missing is found...
3. something injured- healed.

**FOCUS: What is the peace that Jesus alone can bring us?**

### **PEACE WITH GOD.**

The unassuming shepherds and this announcement. The extraordinary action that God has taken on our behalf.

### **It Came upon the Midnight Clear**

And ye, beneath life's crushing load,  
whose forms are bending low,  
who toil along the climbing way  
with painful steps and slow,

look now! for glad and golden hours  
come swiftly on the wing.  
O rest beside the weary road,  
and hear the angels sing!

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For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years  
shall come the time foretold  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song  
which now the angels sing.

You see, God - out of extraordinary love for us, was never content to leave us in this separated state. He crossed the great divide and came to us.

Heaven came to earth.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. God became man. Born of a woman, a child to dwell among us. A man like no other. For he was fully God and fully human: Immanuel, "God with us."

Heaven collides with earth in the person of Jesus Christ.

This man, this baby born in the town of David - the royal town of the king,

In v2:11: a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

It is to break the bonds of sin, death, and evil that have held us tight. It is to take our sin away and make us whole again. Purified, redeemed, righteous.

Col. 1:19-23: "For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through His blood, shed on the cross."

v.14 peace to those on whom God's favor rests.

Jesus brings peace because He restores our relationship with God.

**A PEACE THAT OVERFLOWS TO OTHERS.**

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17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

- On the one hand Mary “pondered in her heart” ... v19...
- The shepherds go from seeing Jesus to spreading the word about him...
- The effect is that their amazement becomes contagious to others.

John 20:21 “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

The peace of Jesus energizes us to share His peace with others:

1. Kindness.
2. Prayer. “I Pray for the peace of God in...”
3. Words. vs10 news that brings joy!

### **PEACE THAT FILLS US.**

20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

There is a story unfolding right now... all around us... a grand redemptive narrative... in which God is bringing his peace in heaven to earth...

Advent reminds us— God is coming into the world...to us & thru us.

Matt 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

John 14:27

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”