

## Christmas Eve 2020: Peace on Earth

### Luke2:8-14

1. Read the passage and introduce the video (*In a year of such turmoil and violence and death, with the Pandemic, the riots, and the election, can we have “peace on earth”? Consider this song and when and why it was written in the video, as we consider Peace on Earth in 2020*):

***\*I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day- video***

2. This song and our passage in Luke 2 help us to see that when Jesus came, God did not mean world peace on earth, ***but peace between God and mankind*** – those with whom God is pleased, or in Gk. “On whom His favor rests”.

\*So let’s look at exactly what the angels said to the shepherds...

3. Luke2:10-11 – good news of great joy! A Savior has been born, Christ the Lord!

A. So, why is this good news? Look also at ***John3:16***...

1. God so loved the world that He sent us a Savior – ***“Perish!”*** that means we need saving!

2. SO, that has to mean there is NOT naturally peace between God and mankind!

\*Is9:2; Rom3:10-12; James4:4; Gal.3:10

***\*WAIT! Aren’t there good people on earth? What about shepherds? What about Mary?***

3. SO, the Good News is God sent a Savior to bring peace between God and mankind.

\*Gal.3:10,13 – Peace means we are rescued from the condemnation and consequences of our sins by escaping God’s curse and wrath; no longer being enemies, but His treasured ones!

***B. UH, THAT IS GOOD NEWS!!!!!! PEACE WITH GOD!!!!!!***

\*\*\*Remember the Passover Lamb for Israel in Egypt...!!! \*That’s Jesus!

4. Luke2:13-14 – the angels break out into praise to God!

A. Glory to God: our salvation, peace between God and mankind is foremost about the glory of God!

1. Jesus coming is about the glory of God! Christmas is about the glory of God!

2. All creation, the entire universe, including us, is about God!

3. Malachi1:11; \*\*\****Col1:13-20***

B. ***DO YOU SEE IT?!!!*** God/Jesus created all things for His glory, and He is glorified by reconciling us to Himself, ***making peace with us through the blood of His cross!***

1. This is Luke 2:14 – ***peace among men, on whom His favor rests!***

2. But, how do we get God’s favor and therefore His peace this Christmas, in 2020?!

***“But now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace.!!! Col2:14***

\*This is what Henry Wadsworth Longfellow came to realize in the middle of the Civil War! ***Jesus is our peace!*** We must ALL realize we are God’s enemies through our sin; He is light, we are in darkness; there is NOT naturally peace between us and God and we cannot earn His peace – ***it was bought, paid for through the PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST on the cross!*** To have God’s favor, each of us must humble ourselves before God, confess our sin to Him AND repent of it, then TRUST in the Savior He provided – Christ the Lord! ***\*Matt.11:28-29- Pandemic, riots and election...***

\*KNOW JESUS, KNOW PEACE between you and God, no matter what is happening!

\*Once you have Jesus, you have PEACE Himself in you, always! ***\*Isaiah26:3,4***

\*\*\****Read Isaiah 9:6-7 to close...***