

THREE MESSAGES OF THE LAMB PROVIDED LUKE 2

Text:

Introduction:

We have looked over the last few weeks at the Lamb Promised, the Lamb Prophesied, the Lamb Prepared. Today I want us to see the Lamb that was Provided. Let's understand that as Mary delivered Jesus into the world, the promised and prophecy was being fulfilled, but also there were some messages being delivered as Well.

1. THE HEAVENLY CHOIR PREACHED A MESSAGE - A MESSAGE OF PEACE (VS 10-14)

Luke 2:10-14

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.

A. Soothing message - Fear not

1. Christ removes fear

B. Salvation message - (vs 11) - a Saviour

Note the three titles given:

- Saviour - deliverer - Pictures Him as the sacrifice
- Christ - anointed - Pictures Him as the fulfillment of the promise and prophecies
- Lord - supreme in authority - The One to be worshiped, served and adored!

Note:

Jesus is called Savior! Not an example or a teacher, but a Savior! If our greatest need had been information, God would have sent an educator. If our greatest need had been technology, God would have sent a scientist. If our greatest need had been money, God would have sent an economist. If our greatest need had been pleasure, God would have sent an entertainer. If our greatest need had been military, God would have sent a soldier. If our greatest need had been for justice, God

would have sent a judge. But, our greatest need was forgiveness and redemption, and, therefore, God sent a Savior!

C. Showing message - (vs 12) pointed to Jesus

D. Shouting message - (vs 13-14) - Praising God

1. Praise to God

2. Peace to men

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

2. THE HUMBLE SHEPHERDS PREACHED A MESSAGE - A MESSAGE OF PRAISE (vs 15-20)

Luke 2:15-20

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. [17] And when they had seen it, they made

known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. [18] And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. [19] But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. [20] And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

A. Message of obedience (vs 15-16)

1. They followed the message they received.
2. We need to obey the message as well

B. Message of opportunity (vs 17-18)

1. They spread the word about Jesus an example that we should follow.

C. Message the overwhelmed (vs 20)

As these men returned to their sheep, notice that their circumstances had not changed. They were still shepherds, still outcasts and still in the field. While their circumstances had not changed, their hearts had! These men returned with hearts full of praise for the Lord. What a difference Jesus makes!

The Lord's purpose is to save sinners and this is done through the power of His grace.

Ephes. 2:8-9

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: [9] Not of works, lest any man should boast.

2 Cor. 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

3. THE HARD HEARTED INNKEEPER PREACHED A MESSAGE - A MESSAGE OF REJECTION (VS 7)

Luke 2:7

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.

There is no evil intent mentioned. However, how many people would turn a pregnant woman away into the night? Reveals a hard heart in the innkeeper!

A. A message of sadness - no room for Jesus

This was the cry of the crowd the day He was crucified.

John 19:15

But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.

B. A message of sorrow - No Jesus; No Hope -
Know Jesus; Know Hope.

John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

C. A message of separation

1. The Innkeeper's rejection prevented him from knowing the joy of the shepherds.

2. To be without Christ is to be without life.

1 John 5:12

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

Close:

As we think about these Christmas Messages, we need to be sure that we receive the message of the angels like the shepherds did; that we too come to know Christ and go away praising Him and glorifying His Name.

What kind of message is your life preaching today? Like the Angels, are you living a life that points men to the Saviour?

Or, are you like the shepherds, so filled up with His wonder and glory that life is fresh everyday because of Christ?

Or, would you have to admit that like the innkeeper, you simply have no room for the Saviour in your life. The things of this world are crowding Him out.

Which describes you best?