"God In Flesh" Luke 2:1-20 Sunday Morning December 21, 2014

Gospel of Luke is a systematic accurate account of the truth about Jesus. Luke 1:1-4

An angel announced to Mary that Jesus was the Son Of The Most High. Luke 1:32-33

Thought Of Our Passage: "Jesus, The Son Of God, Was Born So That He Could Be Our Savior, And Redeem Us To God."

- 1. Verses 1-7 God's Birth In Flesh
- 2. Verses 8-14 God's Birth Announced
- 3. Verses 15-20 God's Birth And Testimony

1. Verses 1-7 - God's Birth In Flesh:

Luke 2:1

"Now it came about in those days" – The days of John the Baptist in Luke 1.

"that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus," – The great nephew of Julius Caesar.

"Augustus" – which means "holy, or revered"; term used of the gods.

Luke 2:2-3

Micah 5:2

Prov. 21:1

Luke 2:4

"Bethlehem" - means "House of Bread"

John 6:35

Luke 2:5-7

"she gave birth to her first-born son;" – This is called "The Virgin Birth".

Matthew 1:18

Matthew 1:21

"Jesus Christ", "Jesus" – Is the Greek form of the Hebrew name for "Joshua" – "Jehovah Savior" or "Jehovah Saves". This tells us that Jehovah in the Old Testament is Jesus. He is God.

The term "Christ" – "Anointed one", "Messiah". So His name is "Jehovah Savior, The Messiah".

Luke 1:34-35

Christmas Is The "First Advent Of The Son Of God".

The Incarnation Of The Son Of God. (God taking on human, flesh and blood body)

The Virgin Birth Of The Son of God. (Mary conceived of the Holy Spirit)

Jesus is God's gift to the world, the one who came to save us from our sins. The promise was first made back in Genesis 3:15.

1 Peter 2:24

The manger spoke of Jesus' lifestyle and mission:

- Lowly birth lowly life. He did not come to be served but to serve.
 He was the servant king.
- 2. Lowly death He would die the death of a criminal. He would die in between two thieves.
- 3. He did not wear sparkling raiment At the cross they gambled for His one-piece garment.
- 4. Did not wear a gold crown But did wear a crown of thorns.
- 5. The king did not ride a horse on His triumphal entry He came riding in on a donkey.

2. Verses 8-14 - God's Birth Announced:

Luke 2:8

Why did God speak to the shepherds?

1. Jesus is the Lamb of God – He was to be slaughtered for the sins of the world. (Takes away the sins of the world)

- 2. Jesus is also called "The Great Shepherd Of The Sheep" He is the great shepherd that would lay down His life for the sheep.
- 3. Shepherds symbolize needful man -

"God used earth's lowest to do God's highest."

Luke 2:9-10

"I bring you good news" – Gospel – That God had provided deliverance from sin.

"great joy" – Will produce a joy that will last for all of eternity.

"which shall be <u>for all the people</u>;" – This gift is for all. Jesus came to purchase all men from their sins.

Luke 2:11-14

Romans 5:1

3. Verses 15-20 - God's Birth And Testimony:

Luke 2:15

They resolved to go at the <u>Right Time</u> – "Let us go straight to" – which is now!

The Right Place - "Bethlehem"

The <u>Right Purpose</u> – "and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

Luke 2:16

"and found" – What a reward; God's Word was true to the shepherds and will be true to us!

Luke 2:17-19

"treasured up all these things," – "to keep in mind, lest we forget."

"pondering them in her heart." – "To throw together, to bring together."

Luke 2:20

After receiving the gift, we glorify Jesus – "shepherds went back, glorifying"

Praising for all He has done – "praising God for all that they had heard and seen,"

Application:

- 1. The Baby Mary Carried Was Not A Caesar Who Would Become A god, But The True God Who Had Become A Man.
- 2. Believing That Jesus Is The Son Of God Who Came In The Flesh, Is Not Only Orthodoxy, But Necessary For Salvation: Luke 2:11.
- 3. The Announcement Of Jesus' Birth Was First Made To Shepherds. This Reveals God's Desire To Save All People Because All People Are In Need Of Salvation.