

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**I BRING YOU GOOD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY**

**WHICH SHALL BE TO ALL PEOPLE**

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 19, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **LUKE 2:8-20**

**Luke 2:9-11**, *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.*

## 1. BACKGROUND

- a. In **Colossians 4:14** Paul identifies Dr. Luke as the beloved physician. *Luke, the beloved physician, and Demas, greet you.*
- b. God's choice of Dr. Luke to author this book was no accident.
- c. **1 Corinthians 1:26** says, *For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.*
- d. With respect to Dr. Luke and the Apostle Paul, God reached down and saved a couple of intellectual giants and filled them with the Holy Spirit. **Ephesians 5:18**, *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Galatians 5:16, This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*
- e. It gives great comfort that God uses men and women as long as they are sold out to Christ and remain in the center of His will.
- f. Paul and Luke were great friends and traveled together on many occasions.
- g. I believe Scripture indicates Dr. Luke accompanied Paul on his second missionary journey, and possibly on his third.
- h. I have aligned myself and accepted the theory for years that Dr. Luke was a Gentile based on **Colossians 4:7-13** where his name is omitted among the brethren who were of the circumcision. However, a careful study of **Romans 3:1-2**, states emphatically that the chief advantage of being a Jew was that to them was committed the oracles of God. *In other words, they were God's chosen people to provide divine revelation to the human race. What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision? 2: Much every way; chiefly, because that unto them were committed the oracles of God. Hebrews 5:12, For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. 1 Peter 4:11, If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Acts 7:38, This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us:* Dr. Luke penned more text than any New Testament writer; more than Paul and John. Therefore, I must conclude that Dr. Luke was not a Gentile – he was a Jew based on a clear unambiguous statement from the Preserved Word of God. **God has never changed His established rule that only the Hebrews were to record and pass on His divine revelation.** God Himself promised to preserve His Word. **Psalms 12:6-7**, *The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. 7: Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.* In the aforementioned verse about preservation, does God speak

truth or error? The Preserved Word of God emphatically tells us God cannot lie. **Titus 1:2, In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;**

- i. This sets forth a very important question for your consideration. Of the men and women who are changing the Bible today; are they Jews or Gentiles? I do not believe that God has changed His mind or His Word with respect to Divine Revelation. **Malachi 3:6, For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.**
- j. Dr. Luke wrote the **Book of Acts** where he was a companion with the Apostle Paul.
- k. Notice Luke's use of the word "we." In **Acts 16:10** he says, **And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.**
- l. From **Acts Chapter 16** we conclude that Luke was with Paul on his historical crossing into Europe.
- m. He was possibly one of Paul's earlier converts and stayed with him to the end.
- n. The reason we know this is because **2 Timothy 4:11** states, **Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.**
- o. Luke stresses the fact that Jesus was the perfect man.
- p. Of course, Luke writes from Mary's point of view in the genealogy.
- q. Luke presents the perfect, Divine Son of God as our High Priest, touching the feeling of our infirmities and able to extend help, mercy, and love to us. **Hebrews 4:15, For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 7:26, For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;**
- r. The **Gospel of Luke** contains many features omitted by Matthew and Mark.
- s. Dr. Luke has the longest account of the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ than any other Gospel. Dr. Luke gives us the songs of Christmas.
- t. Dr. Luke gives us twenty miracles of which six are recorded in no other Gospel. He gives us twenty-three parables and eighteen of them are found nowhere else.
- u. The parable of The Prodigal Son and The Good Samaritan are particular to Luke's Gospel.
- v. He also gives us a very human account of the walk to Emmaus of our Resurrected Lord. He proves that Jesus was still human after His resurrection. **Luke 24:13 & 15, And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. 15: And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.**
- w. Dr. Luke demonstrated that the resurrection was not of the Spirit, but of the body. Jesus was sown a natural body. He was raised a spiritual body in accordance with **1 Corinthians 15:44, It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.**
- x. He reveals the true human nature of the Lord Jesus Christ. We know that Jesus Christ was both Divine and human. **John 1:14, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.**
- y. The person, Jesus Christ, represents one having the true nature of God and the true nature of man, united in one Divine person mysteriously possessing a single consciousness and a single will. **What a Saviour we have, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!!**
- z. Some key themes in the **Book of Luke:**
  - 1. **Jesus understands our weaknesses, temptations, and our trials.**
  - 2. **Jesus came to save both the Jew and the Gentile; the accepted and the outcast.**
  - 3. **Jesus came to save the poor and the rich, man and woman, adult and child.**
  - 4. **Jesus came to save both the free and the oppressed.**
  - 5. **Jesus came to save everyone who will believe the record that He has given and will place their faith in His blood. John 6:29, Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Please refer to the December 19, 2021 Morning Message for the Introduction.

## 3. SIX POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

- c. **And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field.**
  - 1. **Luke 2:8, And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.**

2. Many would ask the question, when was Jesus Christ born?
3. Apparently, as the shepherds were out, the weather was not cool; the sheep were grazing which indicates that it was fairly warm weather.
4. **When He was born is not significant.** Scripture is silent, and we must also remain silent. Let's not allow ourselves to speculate or go negative toward this issue. The important thing, we as believers know for sure, is that Jesus was born in a stable. **Galatians 4:4, But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,**
5. The Scriptures do not say when He was crucified; the Bible is silent, so we must also remain silent. However, we do know that He died for our sins according to the Scriptures. **1 Corinthians 15:3, For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;**
6. In summary: One thing we do know is Christ Jesus was in fact born in Bethlehem.
7. We also know He was crucified on the cross to pay the sin debt for mankind.
8. Notice when the shepherds got the news they were **abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.**
9. This was a nighttime affair. It reminds me that in the middle of the day the Lord decided to bring darkness upon the whole earth so man could not get involved when He paid the penalty of our sins on the cross. **Luke 23:44-45, And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. 45: And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.**
10. The birth of Christ was a public affair. It was announced to the angels and they announced to the shepherds then later on to the wise men upon seeing the star.

**d. I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people**

1. **Luke 2:9-11, 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.**
2. It is wonderful to know Jesus is the Saviour of the entire world!
3. I want to emphasize the fact there is no salvation in any other. **Acts 4:12, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**
4. Jesus had to come and pay the price. What God required God had to provide. Everything that is required to go to Heaven has already been done by the Son. **John 1:14, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John 19:30, When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.**
5. **1 Timothy 3:16, And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.**
6. If Jesus had not come in the flesh, you and I would still be lost. **Hebrews 10:12, But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;**
7. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, fulfilled all of God's laws, He is the only one of whom God has ever said "this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased." **Matthew 3:17, And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**
8. It was Jesus Christ who was born in Bethlehem.
9. The shepherds came to worship Jesus. They were told precisely where to go and what sign would show them who He was.
10. Always remember that Jesus was 100% human, and He was 100% Deity.
11. He did not lay aside His Deity; He laid aside His glory with the Father. He never used His Deity and His humanity at the same time.
12. The shepherds were very fearful when they heard the news.
13. Notice: **Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.**
14. Jesus Christ came to save all. **John 3:16, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. Revelation 22:17, And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come.**

And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

e. **And this shall be a sign unto you.**

1. **Luke 2:12, And this shall be a sign unto you**; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
2. Dr. Luke emphasizes the humanity of Jesus Christ.
3. He came into the world as a human being to touch the feelings of our infirmities. **Hebrews 4:15, For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.**
4. God knows all about mankind; He knows about our woes, He knows about our temptations, and He knows about our rejoicing. **John 2:25, And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.**
5. He understands us because He came into the world as a human being and took our place on the cross so we don't have to die in our sin. **Hebrews 7:26, For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;**
6. **If breath leaves our body and we have not accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, we will die in our sin and hell will be our lot forever. John 3:18, He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.**

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

1. **Luke 2:13-14, 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.**
2. God says exactly what He intends to say in His Preserved Word.
3. The angel makes it very clear that this is **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.**
4. The only way we can have peace is we must have the Prince of Peace.
5. There is no peace for the wicked, but for those who know Jesus as personal Saviour. **Isaiah 48:22, There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked. Psalms 7:11, God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day. Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:**
6. When Jesus gives us that peace a relationship is then established.
7. That relationship can never be broken. Fellowship, however; can be broken if one is outside of the will of God involved in idol worship and sin. This fellowship involves believers and not unbelievers.

g. **Let us now go even unto Bethlehem.**

1. **Luke 2:15-16, 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.**
2. The shepherds wasted no time in going to see about the birth of the Christ child.
3. Jesus was there, and they found Him in the precise location the angel had said, with Mary and Joseph.
4. **Joseph was not the father of Jesus Christ; He was conceived by the Holy Spirit.** At one point Mary made the mistake of referring to Joseph as the father of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Himself corrected her pointing to the Heavenly Father. **Luke 2:48-49, And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. 49: And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?**
5. If Joseph was the earthly father, Jesus would have been conceived in sin and shapen in iniquity.
6. Jesus came from a virgin; a clean vessel, conceived by the Holy Spirit.
7. The angel came and announced it to the shepherds and immediately they went with haste and found out it was a reality what the angel told them.
8. **Notice the absence of the wise men. They did not show up at that time. It was around a year**

or two years later before they got to where Jesus was.

9. Jesus, His mother and Joseph had already moved into a house by the time the wise men got to Him.
10. When they got to Him they worshipped Him and gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.
11. We are not to place the manger scene with the wise men and the shepherds together. The wise men went to the house. **Matthew 2:11**, *And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.*

**h. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen.**

1. **Luke 2:17-20**, *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.*
2. Mary is not to be worshipped.
3. Mary was not elevated above women.
4. Mary was blessed **among** women. **Luke 1:28**, *And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.*
5. It is wrong to place Mary where Jesus needs to be. She was not a perpetual virgin; she bore other children. **Mark 6:3**, *Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.*
6. Jesus is the only one who is worthy of our worship because He is God. **Isaiah 43:7**, *Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.*
7. Mary pondered all these things in her heart. **Luke 2:19**, *But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.*
8. The shepherds could not help but to spread the news.
9. God calls us to share the Gospel to the entire world. **Mark 16:15**, *And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.*
10. *the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.* – Are we not also called to witness to a lost and dying world?
11. Since we are told to go into the highways and hedges and compel them to come to Christ, we need to be about God's business. **Luke 14:23**, *And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.*
12. My friend, are you saved?
13. Do you know the Jesus of the Bible?
14. This is not the Jesus that people have formulated in their minds, not the legalistic Jesus, not the lost Jesus; it is Jesus Christ, the Son of God outlined in the Preserved Word of God we are talking about.
15. **The Jesus of the Scriptures is God** who was manifested in the flesh and through His death, burial and bodily resurrection provided salvation for all of mankind. **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**, *Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; 2: By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. 3: For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; 4: And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*
16. He came to fulfill the law not to destroy it. **Matthew 5:17**, *Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.*
17. If we receive Him as personal Saviour and Lord of our lives, we can have a home in Heaven. **God is giving righteousness for our belief. Everything that is required to go to Heaven has already been done by the Son.** We must understand that **not one single thing with respect to salvation, was left to mankind.**

18. Praise God for the blessed time in which Jesus Christ went to the cross and died for our sin.
19. In a nutshell the Gospel is: the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ set forth in **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- a. My friend what have you done with the Gospel?
- b. Have you come to know Jesus on a personal basis?
- c. It has nothing to do with doing the best we can. It is not about our own righteousness or keeping the Ten Commandment, the Golden Rule or the Sermon on the Mount. It is not about how good we think we are. It is not about our works. **Ephesians 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.**
- d. It is about the blood of the Saviour. Are your sins covered by His blood? **Hebrews 9:22, And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.**
- e. If your sins are not covered by His blood, you need to realize you remain a sinner and are destined for hell and eternal punishment.
- f. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- g. You need to realize that you need a Saviour.
- h. **Romans 6:23, For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**
- i. You have to confess Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.
- j. **John 1:12, But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**
- k. **When we acknowledge Jesus as a Saviour and confess Him as our Lord, then we can understand it is the soul that gets converted and not the flesh. Hebrews 10:39, But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.**
- l. **God saves the soul and saves it for all eternally.**
- m. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- n. Would you please stand?

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