Can You Hear the Angels Singing?

Luke 2:8-14

Angels Everywhere!

It is impossible to miss the supernatural element in the Biblical account of the birth of Jesus. An angel tells Mary she will give birth to Jesus. An angel tells Joseph to call his name Jesus. An angel warns Mary and Joseph to flee to Egypt. An angel tells them when it's safe to return to Israel. And in our text, an angel announces the birth of Christ to the shepherds, and then the angelic choir serenades them.

Missing the Main Point

I think we have heard these things so often that we have forgotten how astounding they are. We believe that this world that we inhabit is not the "real" world. This is just the "temporary" world. This ball of earth we call home will not last forever. We believe this world is temporary; only God is eternal. We believe there is "another world" that is the "real" world. It's the world of God and of the angels, of Christ and the Holy Spirit, of heaven and the saints who dwell in glory.

When God Came Down

Many miracles surround the story of the birth of Jesus—the angels, the star, the dreams, the prophecies, and most of all, the virgin birth. But those miracles are just signs pointing to the greatest miracle of all: Someone from the world of light came to the world of darkness. Someone from the eternal came to the temporary. Someone from heaven came to live with us on earth!

Suddenly!

Sometimes the world around us may seem empty and we may feel entirely alone, but now and then—Suddenly!—when we least expect it—when we've almost given up hope—when we're tired or bored or fearful or disgruntled—God breaks through and the angels start to sing. They sang for some startled shepherds one night in Bethlehem 2,000 years ago. They still sing today for those who care to hear them. Can you hear the angels singing? They bring good news from the other side, good news of great joy, the best news the world has ever heard: Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her King!