

GOD'S RESCUE MISSION

LUKE 2:1-14 - ERIC SIMPSON - DECEMBER 24, 2016

Luke 2:1-3

¹In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³And everyone went to his own town to register.

- Jesus' birth is grounded in history not in "once upon a time" myth/legend.

Luke 2:8-10

⁸And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

➤ **"I bring you good news..."** (v. 10)

Christmas is an announcement about what God has done.

Luke 2:11-14

¹¹Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

➤ **"Glory to God in the highest..."** (v. 14)

glory = a resplendent beauty, a magnificence that has a weight to it

When the glory of God shows up it has the power, authority, & weight to displace things.

➤ **"and on earth peace..."** (v. 14)

sin = death & darkness

Christmas = light & life