

A night sky with a bright starburst in the upper center. A beam of light shines down from the starburst to a manger on a hill. The scene is dark blue with silhouettes of a tent and trees in the foreground.

Great Joy
Luke 2:10
Key Word: Joy

- Luke 2:10 - And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you **good news of a great joy** that will be for all the people.
- Dictionary: Joy - "a feeling of great pleasure and happiness."
- Biblical Joy:
 - A holy and pure
 - Rises above your circumstances
 - Focuses on the character of God

Joy for today

- 1. Five Joyful Characters**
- 2. Joy for all the People**
- 3. Joy in Jesus**
- 4. Joy of the Gospel**

1. Five Joyful Characters in the Christmas Narrative

1. The angels – Heavenly joy
2. The Shepherds – Earthly and humble joy
3. Mary – A treasured joy
4. Joseph – An awesome joy
5. The Wise Men – An extravagant joy

The birth of Jesus was witnessed by the lowest of that society, the shepherds, and the worlds most important of that day, the wise men. This tells us the gospel is for everyone.

2. Joy for all the people

- “good news of great joy for all the people.”
- Simeon in Lk. 2:32 – “a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”
- Matthew 28:19, 20 – “...make disciples of all nations.”
- “Good News of great joy” - to everybody.

3. Our Joy is in Jesus

The true joy of Christmas can only be found in the person of Jesus Christ.

Why?

1. He alone achieved your salvation.
2. Jesus accomplished what the OT anticipated - A Savior.
3. Sins forgiven!
4. In the incarnation, obedience, and crucifixion of Jesus the Lord, His people would be saved.

4. The Joy of the Gospel

The thread of Joy Running Through the N.T.

1. Joy is the distinguishing characteristic of the Christian life.
2. There is joy in Christian fellowship.
3. There is joy in the gospel details.

The gospel (the good news) as described by the angels is “great joy that will be for all the people.” It is a message of joy because the Savior and Lord is the One who brings peace and acceptance from God himself .

