

# Merry Christmas from Pastor Davis and the Study Hour Family

## WINTER QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2014

**THEME: COME LET US ADORE CHRIST THE KING IN WORSHIP, PRAYER, AND STEWARDSHIP**

### Unit I – ADORING CHRIST THE KING IN ACTS OF WORSHIP

#### “A MOMENTOUS MOMENT TO WORSHIP CHRIST THE KING”

Sunday School Lesson No. III – December 21, 2014

Presented by Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher



Lesson Text: Luke 2:8-20

Motto Text: Luke 2:20, “And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.”

Required Reading: Luke 2:1-20

Reliable Resources: Outline Bible (H. L. Willmington); Standard Lesson Commentary; Word Search 10 Electronic Library; Life Application Bible (NIV); Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Logos Bible Software; Precepts for Living, UMI; Rightly Dividing Luke by E. L. Bynum

#### LESSON INTRODUCTION

“Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King; Let every heart prepare Him room, And heaven and nature sing!” Beloved, this should have been the song on the hearts and lips of the entire universe when the Saviour was born, for it was and still is, “**A Momentous Moment to Worship Christ the King.**” Our lesson this week calls for all who would hear to rejoice in the Saviour’s Birth! Yet many in our modern society miss the real meaning of the message. They are borrowing money they can’t afford to pay back, maxing out credit cards, robbing and stealing from others and cheating themselves for electronic gadgets, trinkets and expensive toys! But when we focus on the reason for this season, it should be spelled **Christmas**, with the focus on **CHRIST!** For as a preacher once said, “You can’t spell **Christmas** without **CHRIST!**” Let us review the biblical narrative of the Christmas story as told from the pen of St. Luke, and experience “**A Momentous Moment to Worship Christ the King.**” (Read Luke 2:1-20).

#### Anticipated Power Points:

- **Worship for God’s Sovereign Control. Luke 2:1-3**
- **Worship for God’s Scriptural Concern. Luke 2:4-7**
- **Worship for God’s Diverse Congregation. Luke 2:8-10**
- **Worship for God’s Distinct Confirmation. Luke 2:11-12**
- **Worship for God’s Own Act of Congratulation. Luke 2:13-14**
- **Worship for God’s Shepherds’ Communication. Luke 2:15-18, 20**
- **Worship for Mary, God’s Special Choice. Luke 2:19**

#### “A Momentous Moment to Worship Christ The King”

#### OUTLINE

##### **I. Worship for God’s Sovereign Control. Luke 2:1-3**

Luke opens by helping us understand that the birth of the Saviour was under God’s sovereign control over the affairs of men. Luke brings history into focus as he speaks of figures such as Caesar Augustus and Cyrenius being governor of Syria. People think that they are controlling their lives without God’s intervention, but beloved, God’s sovereign hand is and always has been present in the affairs of mankind! Worship and rejoice beloved, because the birth of the Saviour is historically documented! Why? Because of God’s sovereign control over the affairs of men!

## II. Worship for God's Scriptural Concern. Luke 2:4-7

The Romans' taxation here was really a census, conducted about every 14 years to survey the population for military and taxation purposes. Every male had to register in the place of his nativity. God used this to accomplish His purpose in at least three areas concerning the fulfillment of prophecy in the birth of His Son!

### A. Rejoice for Christ being born in the right place. vs. 4-5

Micah 5:2, *"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."*

### B. Rejoice for Christ being born at the right time. vs. 6

Galatians 4:4-5, *"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."*

### C. Rejoice for Christ being born under the right circumstances. vs. 7

Isaiah 42:1-3, *"Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth."* Beloved, none of these great things would have happened if God had not consented!

## III. Worship for God's Diverse Congregation. Luke 2:8-10

God overviews His congregation in these verses – **angels** representing the heavenly divine, and the **shepherds** representing the earth's disenfranchised. *"For God so loved the world..."* These **shepherds** may have been keepers of the sacrificial animals of the temple...on guard day and night, not able to enjoy all the acts of corporate worship because they were considered ceremonially unclean, but truly playing a very important role. The **angels** were God's special messengers dispatched with divine news to earth's humble congregants. *"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."* When one receives the heavenly message of hope, it is good news from a far country! This good news is the Gospel truth, beloved. Now are you a part of God's divinely diverse congregation? John 1:12 tells us, *"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."* Truly the birth of the Saviour is Good News that is available to **all** who would receive it! (Matthew 11:28-30).

## IV. Worship for God's Distinct Confirmation. Luke 2:11-12

While the shepherds were comforted from their present fears by the angels, they also were given distinct confirmation of where to find the Saviour at His birth, and how they would recognize Him! Thank God for His **GPS!**

### A. They would find Him in David's city of his nativity, Bethlehem. vs. 11

### B. They would find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. vs. 12

These were strips that were also used for bandages, and to wrap the dead for their burial; now were wrapped around the child to secure Him, demonstrating an act of love, and were not unusual. But a newborn baby lying in an animal trough or manger was quite an unusual sight. Truly beloved, this would be a distinct confirmation of the Christ child!

## V. Worship for God's Own Act of Congratulations. Luke 2:13-14

It is customary for a modern father to light up and give out cigars after the birth of his child. This congratulatory act by human fathers is dwarfed by the rejoicing of God's angelic hosts that lit up the heavens! The shout and declaration of the angels should teach us the importance of the Saviour's birth! (*"Joy to the world! The Lord is come! Let earth receive her King!"*)

## VI. Worship for God's Shepherds' Communication. Luke 2:15-18, 20

They **heard** the Word, they **saw** the Word, they **worshipped** the Word and they **shared** the Word! Let us do likewise!

## VII. Worship for Mary God's Special Choice. Luke 2:19

Mary continues to teach us how to humbly surrender and worship the wondrous person of The Almighty God through total submission, (*"...be it unto me according to Thy word."*) Luke 1:38.

## CLOSING

My beloved, the exclamation of the angelic host and the response of the shepherds and Mary should direct us to give praise and accolades unto our God for His Son and our Saviour Jesus Christ! But as I close beloved, don't only rejoice at the Saviour's **cradle**, but rejoice in His **cause**, rejoice in His **Cross**, rejoice in the empty **crypt** and His great **commission!** Rejoice at the fact that Jesus Christ ascended into Heaven and is seated in the seat of **intercession** for you and me. And one day He is coming back again! *"Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns! Let men their songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy!"*

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TV Broadcast: WHNO TV-Channel 20, Sunday, 6:30 a.m.

Looking Ahead: December 28, 2014 Matthew 14:22-36



**You are invited to attend Noon Bible Study every Wednesday as Pastor Davis teaches the lesson at Bibleway.**