



+ **YOU**

Sermon Series: Irrefutable: Prophecies that Point Us to Jesus

To be used with Session 3: The Savior Who Came to Us

Sermon Title Possibilities: The Liberator for Us

Scripture: Luke 2:4-12, 16-20

Connection with Unit Theme: To complement the small group study “*Irrefutable: Prophecies that Us to Jesus*,” this sermon reminds us that Jesus came to earth through **A Divinely-Designed Situation, An Angelically-Announced Proclamation**, and that His birth provoked **A Biblically-Based Celebration**.

Introduction

Being the researcher that he was, Luke gave us the largest amount of material concerning the birth of Christ. In chapter two of Luke’s gospel, we see The Backstory of Jesus (vv. 1-5), The Birth of Jesus (vv. 6-11), The Blessing of Jesus (vv. 12-32), The Business of Jesus (vv. 33-50), and The Building-up of Jesus (vv. 51-52).

Afresh and anew, we see how Christ was presented by the Holy Spirit, proclaimed by the angels, and praised by the people. May we allow the Holy Spirit to use us to present Jesus to a watching world, to proclaim Jesus to a lost world, and to praise Jesus before a broken world.

1. A Divinely-Designed Situation. (vv. 4-7)

Luke was a physician by profession, but in seeking to be an efficient disciple-making disciple of Christ he became a rigorous researcher (Luke 1:1-4; Acts 1:1-3). His research led him to communicate that the birth of Christ was declared by the prophets and designed by the One true God.

It’s amazing to see how prophecy unfolds and is fulfilled when reading Scripture. It makes me think about what Moses said years earlier in Numbers 23:19, “God is not a man who lies, or a son of man who changes His mind. Does He speak and not act, or promise and not fulfill?” It had already been prophesied that Christ would be born in Bethlehem (Mic. 5:2) and that He would come from the lineage of David (2 Samuel 7:16). In our passage, we see how God navigated situations and circumstances to make sure that Christ would come at the right time, in the right way, through the right family-line, and for the right purpose—namely our liberation from sin. May you and I be conscious of and sensitive to the fact that God divinely-designs situations so that Christ can be presented to the world.

2. An Angelically-Announced Proclamation. (vv. 8-12)

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The angels made a proclamation to the shepherds. The proclamation was threefold. They shared with that Jesus was the solution for sin—"I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all people," that Jesus was the Savior of the world—"Today in the city of David a Savior was born for you," and that Jesus was the Sovereign-One—"who is the Messiah." That's good news. Jesus is the solution for sin. He can get sin out of you and get you out of sin. Jesus is the Savior of the world. When you place your life in His hands, He places His life in your heart. Jesus is the Sovereign-One. Jesus is Lord in heaven; make sure today that He is Lord in your heart.

3. A Biblically-Based Celebration. (v.16-20)

In this portion of Scripture, Luke revealed how the shepherds that heard from the angels and saw Christ were testifying and glorifying. They went about telling everyone what they had heard and seen, and they glorified God for what they had seen and heard. You and I ought to take our cue from them. No angels have spoken to us, but God has given us a word through Scripture that is just as true, potent, and powerful as what the shepherds heard from the angels. And, though we were not there to see the events and announcements, we have read it through Luke's gospel. We should give ourselves to testifying to other humans and glorifying the God of heaven. We can—and must—give ourselves to A Biblically-Based Celebration.

Conclusion: Everyday people are dying and going to a Christless eternity. People all around us are bound by Satan, sin, and societal pressures. The world needs Jesus and Jesus wants to use us to reach the world. May we allow the Holy Spirit to use us to present Jesus to a watching world, to proclaim Jesus to a lost world, and to praise Jesus before a broken world.

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