Review: God promised to send a Savior way back in Genesis 3:15, right after the first man sinned. Mary was told by an angel she would have a baby, the Son of God, the One God promised to send. Joseph was told by an angel that Mary was going to have a baby and that he should get married to Mary, even though he was not the baby’s father. Jesus’ Father is God.

PRAY

“For today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11

Luke 2:1-20

- Jesus was born in Bethlehem
- The angels announced Jesus’ birth declaring Him the Savior, The Christ and the Lord
- Jesus is God’s only way of peace between God and people
- Another of Jesus’ names is Savior and the Door

People! Everywhere there were so many people! Crowds and crowds of people! Pushing and shoving and trying to find a place to spend the night. Mary and Joseph were part of the large crowd. Mary was so tired and Joseph was so afraid! Mary was about to have a baby and Joseph didn’t know what to do; there was no room for them anywhere and no one would help them. Joseph must have whispered a prayer and God showed him a place to go…it was a manger.

A manger is the place where the farmers would put the food for the animals to eat out of. It may have been filled with hay for the animals. Normally, where there are animals it is not very nice or clean. It is not like a nice hospital or house. But that is where Jesus was born. That night, the Bible tells us that Jesus was born and Mary laid him in the manger. Jesus, the One who had made the whole earth, the animals and all of those people...Jesus had made it all, but now Jesus had come into the world as a helpless little baby. Jesus is the King of the world, yet there He is; born as a baby, not in the nicest place, but one of the lowest.

But even though no one but Mary and Joseph seemed to notice that the Savior had been born on earth; oh, heaven knew! All of the angels in heaven knew that God had come to offer Himself as the peace offering! The angels knew that God had done something that was so incredible it made the angels sing! God was keeping His promise to send a Savior to the whole world so that things could be made right again! Sin had messed up the whole world and now, Jesus, The Savior, was coming to start making things right!

Some shepherds were out with their sheep and the Bible tells us that (start reading from vs. 8)“In the same place there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for ALL the people; for today in the city of David (that’s Bethlehem) there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign for you; you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”
And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude (a whole bunch) of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”

When the angels had gone away from them back into heaven, the shepherds said, “Let’s go! Let’s go straight to Bethlehem and see this thing which the Lord has made known to us.”

So they came in a hurry and they found their way to Mary and Joseph and the baby as He lay in the manger.

And after they had worshiped Jesus there, they went and told everyone what they saw! The Bible says that the shepherds went back to their sheep glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, because it was just as the angels said.

The Bible tells us that all people are born God’s enemy. All people are born with sin—and sin is God’s enemy. The Bible also tells us that “God so loved the world that He sent His only Son, so whosoever believes in Him, (Jesus) will have eternal life.” When Jesus, God’s Son, came to earth, God had Jesus pay the penalty for sin—Jesus, who never sinned, died to take the place of the sinners. God is holy and sin had to be punished. God’s holiness would not let Him just ignore sin. For sin to be forgiven, it also had to be punished. Jesus took the punishment. That’s why Jesus is called Savior—He saves people from the penalty of sin. Sin was paid for and now forgiveness and peace can come. Jesus is the only way to God. Another of Jesus’ names is “The Door”—because He is the only way into God’s family.

All that is written in the Bible is true. The shepherds heard news that seemed so amazing, but they believed it and acted on it. What we hear and see and learn from the Bible it is very amazing—and true. Jesus is God’s only Savior. Trusting that Jesus is God’s Son and that He came, lived a perfect, sinless life, died on the cross to pay the price of the sin of the world and then arose from the dead, alive forever—that is how God chose to make peace with sinful men. Jesus is the Door—the only way in to God’s family.

Wow-God did all that for us. Let us worship Jesus now too. Let’s pray...

Q & A

What was Bethlehem like during the time Jesus was born...was it quiet or very busy with lots of people?

Did anyone make room for Mary or was it too busy?

Where was Jesus born then?

What is a manger normally used for?

Did any people notice that Jesus was born or were they too busy?

Who did know Jesus was born? People or angels?

Who did the angels announce that God’s Savior was born?
Did the shepherds stay with their sheep or go and find Jesus?
Did they keep the good news to themselves or tell everyone?
What have people done that makes them God’s enemy?
Who is the One way to have peace with God?
Is there any other way to God or is Jesus the only way to God?
What are some of the names of Jesus that we have learned?

Infant Story:
Mary and Joseph finally made it to Bethlehem and they were exhausted!
They looked for somewhere to stay but all they could find was an animal stable.
There in that stable the Lord Jesus Christ was born.
An angel announced Jesus’ birth to a group of shepherd’s nearby.
The shepherd’s then saw many angels who said, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”
The shepherd’s left right away to go see Jesus.
When the shepherd’s found Jesus, they worshipped Him.
The shepherd’s knew this Jesus would take away the sins of the whole world.
When we believe God sent Jesus to take away our sins, we receive eternal life.
And this life forever with God is the greatest gift ever.