

Christ Is Born: The Message of Jesus

Pastor John Carmichael

[Luk 2:15-20 NASB95] 15 When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds [began] saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." 16 So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. 17 When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds. 19 But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

- Petra: Stand Up. Got suspended from high school. Met Pastor Rodgers. I had gotten so impacted by the message of Jesus I wanted to impact the school.
- The shepherds were so impacted by the message from the angels and their own encounter with Jesus they made the message known.
- The message: [Luk 2:10-12 NASB95] 10 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; 11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 "This [will be] a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."
- They glorified and praised God for all they **had heard and seen**.
- The message was real. The message had to be told.

What are we to do with the message of Jesus?

Here are four things God wants us to do with the message of Jesus.

I. Hear the message of Jesus.

- a. The impact of the message started with their hearing it.
- b. Not everyone who has ears hears. We need to ask God to soften our hearts. We need to ask God to give us ears to hear.
- c. There were times when God was speaking and people missed what happened. [Jhn 12:28-29 NASB95] 28 "Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came out of heaven: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." 29 So the crowd [of people] who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, "An angel has spoken to Him."
- d. We need to ask God for His help. [Eph 1:16-18 NASB95] 16 do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention [of you] in my prayers; 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. 18 [I pray that] the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,
- e. Cry out to God to not miss the message of God. Beyond information. Revelation.

II. Act on the message of Jesus.

- a. V. 15-17
- b. They acted on message. Which led to an encounter with Jesus.
- c. [Heb 4:2 NASB95] 2 For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard.
- d. We encounter the message of Jesus when we act on it in faith.
- e. This will lead to an encounter with the Jesus of the message.

Christ Is Born: The Message of Jesus

Pastor John Carmichael

- f. To hear a word from God and not act on the word is deception. [Jas 1:22 NASB95] 22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.
- g. When you act on the message of Jesus, you will be undefeatable. [Mat 7:24-27 NASB95] 24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 "And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and [yet] it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. 26 "Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 "The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell and great was its fall."

III. Tell the message of Jesus.

- a. V. 17 they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds.
- b. The world needs to hear the message of Jesus.
- c. [Rom 10:13-17 NASB95] 13 for "WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED." 14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher? 15 How will they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!" 16 However, they did not all heed the good news; for Isaiah says, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT?" 17 So faith [comes] from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.
- d. This message must be preached. People will not figure it out on their own.
- e. Make a decision to share your faith. It can be as simple as asking to pray for people then ask them about Jesus. Plug them into the church. Or just invite people to church.

IV. Live the message of Jesus.

- a. 20 The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.
 - b. Praise God daily. [Luk 10:20 NASB95] 20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."
 - c. Live passionately surrendered. [Luk 9:23 NASB95] 23 And He was saying to [them] all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.
 - d. All the message of Jesus to impact every thing you do.
- If the cradle of Christ had such an effect upon them, as to make them rise from the stable and the manger to heaven, how much more powerful ought the death and resurrection of Christ to be in raising us to God?" (Calvin)
 - **God wants the message of Jesus' coming to move us to tell it.**