

Sunday, December 22, 2024

1 Timothy 4:13, "Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.

Title: Silent Night, Holy Night

Series: Christmas 2024 ... 3

Text: Luke 2:1 - 22

urpose: I want to INFORM my congregation of the quiet entrance of DIVINE HOLINESS into a spiritually dead humanity in the person of Christ Jesus born in Bethlehem.

Introduction:

~ Exodus 33:18 – 23, "*Moses said, "Please show me your glory." (19) And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. (20) But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." (21) And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me there you shall stand on the rock, (22) and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. (23) Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."*

1. Christ Jesus Born INTO the World:

~ Isaiah 7:14, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

~ Isaiah 9:6 – 7, "*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his should, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (7) of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this."*

~ Luke 2:1 – 7; notice there was no fanfare, no royal suite with attendants, no gathering of religious leaders or the ruling class. Quiet and unassuming was the entrance of Immanuel. Born into the world but not from the world. We could say that the world had no room for God come as man. The important question that I must ask myself is: "Have I made room for the King of Glory in MY life."

~ Luke 2:8 – 21: Notice the it was lowly shepherds who were the heralds. No sounding of trumpets, no large crowds, and no celebration.

~ One could say that the King of glory had a SILENT entry into human history.

2. Christ Jesus the Sinless Lamb of God:

~ 2 Corinthians 5:21, "*For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."*

~ Hebrews 4:15 – 16, "*For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. (16) Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*

~ 1 John 3:5, "*You know that he appeared in order to take away sins, and in him there is no sin."*

~ 1 Peter 1:18 – 19, "*knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, (19) but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot."*

~ It is my understanding that the birth of Christ Jesus was the most HOLY event in human history!

3. Christ Jesus Declared the Son of God:

~ Romans 1:3 – 4, "*concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh (4) and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,"*

~ Notice after His physical death it was the "Spirit of holiness" that accomplished the resurrection.

4. Christ Jesus Promised to Return:

~ John 14:1 – 9

~ Jesus says He is preparing a place for YOU!

~ Jesus says He will come again and take YOU to Himself!

~ Jesus says if you have seen Him YOU have seen the Father!

Conclusion:

The prayer of Moses in Exodus 33:18, "Please show me your glory.", is granted to all who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ! To know Him and to see Him in YOUR reborn spirit is to see the Father.

Frances J. Crosby's Hymn: He Hideth My Soul