

Christmas Bible Hour, Firm Foundation Christian Church, 2025

1. Our Text: Luke 2:8-14
2. Teaching and Devotional Applications **18 O Holy Night**
 - a. 2:8, faithful and industrious shepherds rewarded, they were found to be both faithful and industrious (working)
 - b. 2:9, “glory of the Lord” is the Shekinah Glory of God, as spoken of in Numbers 24:17 and witnessed in Matthew 2:1-2
 - c. 2:10, “Do not be afraid”, needless fear
 - i. “good tidings”, the good news! Cf. Romans 10:14-15.
 - ii. “all people”, the Savior has come for shepherds and kings, Jews and Gentiles, rich and poor, men and women, the universal call (Isaiah 45:22, 61:1; John 3:16), What about children? Matthew 19:13-14. We call them God’s favorite people.
 - d. 2:11, “the city of David”, his ancestral home (1 Samuel 16:4, 17:15)
 - i. Micah 5:2 finds its fulfillment here, Matthew 2:6 quotes in context
 - ii. “a Savior”, or ‘a Jesus’, the nature of this Savior is that He is not a human deliverer but “Christ the Lord”, the eternal Messiah, the God-Man, the unconditional fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant (1 Chronicles 17:11-14; Matthew 1:1)
 - e. 2:12, the specific sign to the shepherds was to bear witness to the unusual circumstances of this particular Child
 - i. Apply: One wonders if any other babies born that night in Bethlehem had found room at the inn, or in the town with family. The world has room for its own, but “the Son of Man has no place to lay His head” (Luke 9:58 applied). **59 Away in a Manger**
 - f. 2:13, more angels suddenly appear to join in the chorus of praise
 - g. 2:14, the angelic song, we cannot know if this was the entire song or only its chorus, but it is enough in and of itself **20 Hark the Herald Angels Sing**
 - h. The Incarnation (Cf. John 1:14; Philippians 2:5-11) had/has three effects
 - i. God’s Glory, Psalm 148
 - ii. God’s Peace, a conditional offer by God to all, stressing belief required on man’s part (Cf. Romans 1:16-17, 5:1, 8:6), Jesus left His peace here for each and every one of us, John 14:27.
 - iii. God’s Goodwill, His divine favor towards all men by preparing a Body for Himself to come down and pay sin’s penalty, thereby qualifying those who wish to come to Him for heaven, based on His own merits and not ours (Romans 3:23-26, 6:23), (Simplified for Application)--Christmas was the beginning, Easter was the culmination, of the salvific work, God’s goodwill is both universal and personal, Cf. Jeremiah 29:11-13. **14 Joy to the World**