

Prayer Update 1050

Wednesday 1 December 2021

God's Word for this week ... Luke 2:8-14

In the same region [Bethlehem] there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock at night.

And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood near them, and **the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.**

And so 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 there has been born for you **a Saviour, who is Messiah the Lord.** And 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 of the heavenly army of angels praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and **on earth peace among people with whom He is pleased.**"

A Life-changing Encounter with Jesus

- > The shepherds heard about, and were directed to Jesus, by an angel.
- > The magi followed the leading of a star which led them to Jesus.
- > A thief met Jesus at the cross, and found salvation.
- > Saul found Jesus as a result of a brilliant light from Heaven, and hearing His voice.
- > A jailer and his family found Jesus as a result of an earthquake and Paul's witness.

Hundreds of millions of people since then have had an encounter with Jesus the Messiah and confess Him as their Lord and Saviour.

There are many different ways in which people encounter Jesus, but the same result – they all met Jesus, their lives were radically changed, and they are saved by Him, eternally!

- Praise God for sending Jesus, and for the way or ways you had a divine, life-changing encounter with Him.
- Ask God to help you share the good news about Jesus, with other people.
- Pray for all the different ways the message of Jesus, our Saviour and Lord, will be shared at this time, for example: the Hope Project, Rhema Ministries, Christian Broadcasting Association, Festival One, and other outreaches; and through churches and individual Christians.
- Pray for those people who are not yet saved. Pray that they will believe. Pray that they will hear about the Lord. Pray that Christians will proclaim Him. Pray that they will be "sent" – called by God and willing to go!

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim Him? And how are they to proclaim Him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Rom. 10:13-15)

- In times of uncertainty and fear, read aloud and proclaim the Word and promises of God; for example – Isaiah 41:10; 43:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:7. Pray that people will call on the Lord.
 - > **Do not fear**, for I am with you; **do not be afraid**, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with My victorious right hand.
 - > Thus says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel, "**Do not fear**, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour."
 - > God has not given us the spirit of fear but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.