

THE SIGHTS, THE SCENES, THE SAYINGS OF HIS BIRTH

Matt 1:21, 23; 2:2, 11;

Luke 2:8-11

December 20, 2009

INTRODUCTION: In the birth narrative there is much to see and hear. There are angels, shepherds, wise men, kings; there are mangers, stars, gifts, and worship. Yet, Jesus is at the center.

Matthew and Luke, in particular, tell much of the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ.

.21 “You shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”

- God **For** Us

.23 “They shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, God with us.”

- God **With** Us

2:2 “Have come to worship Him”

- God **To** Us

2:14 “On earth peace” – Peace of God and Peace with God

- God **In** Us

Today, I want us to consider:

WHAT DO YOU WISH TO *NOT* MISS THIS CHRISTMAS?"

Consider some who wish they could do the first Christmas over:

◆ **The Innkeepers** – “**No room**”

◆ **Herod** – Claimed he wished to worship, but Scripture reveals he wished to destroy Him

However, the Shepherds responded so wonderfully

Luke 2:15-17, “So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.’ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.”

On the 23rd all of my children/grandchildren will come to our home; food, fun, fellowship, love, gifts, story of Jesus, prayers, etc.

On the 25th – brothers, sisters, and families (some)

How about you? “*What do you wish to not miss this Christmas?”*

My staff dealt with this question. See if it speaks to you. Let’s listen and apply:

- 1. Opportunity to share His grace**
- 2. Opportunity to share with Dad (Alzheimer’s); take time and share gratitude**
- 3. See Christmas through the eyes of a husband (who is coming around in his walk)**

- 4. Wants to serve people who don't expect to be served**
- 5. Doesn't want to miss the peace of God**
- 6. Doesn't want to miss the joy of family and relationships**
- 7. Wishes to remember, in the midst of a crisis, you can have joy**
- 8. Don't miss the real meaning of Christmas (clues for Christians: manger and cross)**
- 9. Gratefulness and letting those you love know how grateful you are for them**
- 10. Don't wish to miss Jesus in the midst of the busyness of the holidays**
- 11. Share Jesus with old friends you visit or those that visit you**
- 12. Focus on the things we do have; focus on what is there, not about what isn't there**
- 13. Don't miss the opportunity to teach our kids right**
- 14. Wants to pour out love on children that have left the nest**
- 15. Don't want to miss opportunities for reconciliation**
- 16. Don't want to miss needs of others throughout the year (not just Christmas)**
- 17. Don't want to miss out on real, meaningful conversations with extended family**
- 18. Don't want to miss the joy of giving**
- 19. Don't want to miss the joy of worship**

- 20. Don't want to miss the opportunity to be thankful for answered prayer**
- 21. Don't want to miss the blessing that results from obedience**
- 22. Don't want to miss the example of Acts 20:35**
- 23. Don't want to miss the future, what God has for us**
- 24. Don't want to regret this year. What I could have done this year; cherish people now**
- 25. Don't want to miss "re-gifting"**

SENIOR ADULTS:

- 26. Sensitive to others because of unknown circumstances**
- 27. Loving the unlovable or shy people**
- 28. People being saved**
- 29. Hearing God's voice.**

Wednesday night I visited the Middle School Service with Rick Young; great message:

- 1. *Mary Trusting***
- 2. *Joseph Obeying***
- 3. *Angel Praising***
- 4. *Shepherds Seeking***
- 5. *Wise Men Giving***