

SERMON SUMMARY

Date: December 23, 2007	11:00 am Worship Service
Preacher: Rev. Donald Lawrence	Reference: Luke 2: 1-20
Topic: Grasping Our Lord's Desire...for the Incarnation and Proclamation	

What qualifies a person to be a herald of the Message of Peace? St. Luke's account of the nativity shows the inclusiveness of God's love. This passage indicates:

- ▲ the extent of the reach of God's love
- ▲ those who are not excluded from His love
- ▲ those He would enlist as evangelists of His love
- ▲ those who will receive evidence of His love

In verses 1-7, we see Unnecessary Inconvenience through:

- Summons: Empire Mandated (1-3)
- Situation: Expectant Mother (4-5)
- Shut Out: Encradled in a Manger (6-7)

This is a call to announce that we can encounter God in our frenzy. This demands that we tell the Ladened God is here because God knows the Pressures which nag us.

Unlikely Inclusion is spoken of in verses 8-12, as seen in those:

- consigned to the fringe (8)
- consumed by fear (9)
- chosen to be favored (10-12)

This is a call to announce that we can encounter God in our forgotten ness. We need to tell the Lowly that God is here because God knows the Partiality which nags us.

Verses 13-18 speak of Unexpected Intermediaries, as seen with the:

- Heavenly Host with a Message (13-14)
- Humble couple with the Messiah (15-16)
- Honored bunch with a Motivation (17-18)

This is a call to announce that we can encounter God as to set us on fire. This demands that we tell the Lackadaisical God is here because that fact is that God knows the Passion which we need.

In verses 19-20, we see Undeniable Inner Peace through:

- Relishing Divine Revelation & Recognition (19)
- Rejoicing in Divine Revelation & Recognition (20)

This is a call to announce that we can encounter God so as to know fullness. We ought to tell The Longing God is here because God knows the Proof which we need.

Those who allow the announcement of peace to run its course in their lives, find that they automatically broadcast the Gospel. Let us give the Prince of Peace full reign in our lives.