

SERMON OUTLINE NOTES

I. WAITING FOR GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY

- A. God warns Israel of joyless obedience (Deuteronomy 28:47-51)
 - 1. If they will not serve God in joy and gladness because of their abundance (Luke 2:47)...
 - 2. They will serve their enemies in exile (Luke 2:48-51)
 - 3. God offers hope in the midst of judgment (Deuteronomy 30:1–3)
- B. Disobedient Exiles are promised joy (Isaiah 35:1-10; Jeremiah 23:5-8)
 - 1. The ransomed will return (Isaiah 35:10; Jeremiah 23:7-8)
 - 2. A righteous Branch of David return as King (Jeremiah 23:5-6)
 - 3. The eternal covenant with David (Jeremiah 33:14-21)
- C. The Exiles return but it isn't the fullness of joy
 - 1. The foundation of the Temple is laid with mixed response (Ezra 3:10–13)
 - 2. The people are still raw about their experience (Nehemiah 8:1–2, 5–6, 8–12)
 - 3. Zerubbabel is chosen as leader, a descendant of David (Haggai 2:23: Matthew 1:12)

II. REJOICE! GOD HAS COME (LUKE 2:8-14)

- A. Jesus' birth is good news of great joy (Luke 2:10)
- B. Why would this good news of great joy? (Luke 2:11)
 - 1. Because he is the long-awaited descendant of David (Luke 1:30-33)
 - 2. Because he has come to save sinner (Matthew 1:21)
 - 3. Because he is God who has come to earth (Matthew 1:22–23) that he might provide reconciliation (Colossians 1:19–20; Romans 5:8–11)
- C. This good news is for all the peoples (Isaiah 42:5-9)
 - 1. Messiah would come for both Jews and Gentiles (Isaiah 42:6)
 - 2. Jesus is for all the peoples (Luke 2:25-32; Revelation 5:9-10)

III. AND, REJOICE! HE IS COMING AGAIN

- A. We are sorrowful yet always rejoicing (2 Corinthians 6:10)
- B. But our sorrow will turn to everlasting joy (John 16:16-22)

LUKE 2:8-14

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and

14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

saying,

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Why is it so important to God that His people obey Him with joy and gladness?
Do you find yourself being joyful and glad when it comes to obeying God?

2. What were the disobedient, joyless, and exiled people of Israel promised throughout the Old Testament?

3. How does the good news of the gospel (especially Jesus' birth) bring joy and gladness to those who find themselves in despair?

4. How does the hope and expectation of the second advent bring joy and gladness to those who are full of sorrow?

5. What are some practical ways that you can cultivate joy and gladness in God as a family or community during this season of Advent and beyond?