



- 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 saying,

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

SERMON REFLECTIONS

1. 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?