

## Good Will

**Luke 2:1-14** And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. **2** (*And* this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) **3** And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. **4** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) **5** To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. **6** And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. **7** And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. **8** And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. **9** And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. **10** And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. **11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. **12** And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, **good will** toward men

Today I would like to talk about GOOD WILL.

No, I am not talking about that famous thrift store, although it could be argued that is Biblically the first store mentioned in the Christmas story!

**How many will admit that they bought someone something at Goodwill this year?....**

All joking aside, I would like to speak today on GOOD WILL. Here in the passage we find the angels announcing the reason for Christ's coming to earth – PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TOWARD MAN.

The Good Will of God was:

### 1. REFLECTED in JESUS

**2 Corinthians 8:9** For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

### Romans 5:8

Ever time in the Bible you find God appearing, you find instant fear and bowing:

- **I.e. Holy of Holies**  
**The Glory of God always veiled!**
- **The Thundering of the Mountain when God gave the 10 commandments!**
- **When Peter recognized that Jesus was GOD:**  
**Luke 5:8** When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.
- **When He returns**, the Bible says there will be an earthquake! People will be calling for the rocks to fall on them!

But notice in between is GOOD WILL:

**Matthew 26:50-54** And Jesus said unto him, **Friend, wherefore art thou come?** Then came they, and laid hands on Jesus, and took him. **51** And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out *his* hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear. **52** Then said Jesus unto him, **Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.** **53** **Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? (He did not come to fight, He came with GOOD WILL towards man)** **54** **But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?**

*“He Could have called 10,000 Angels to destroy the world and set Him free, but He died alone for you and me”*

**John 10:18** No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father. You could not look on to the Glory of GOD!!! Yet John 1:14 reads:

**Christ came and did what the Law could not do.**

**Romans 3:10-24** As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: **11** There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. **12** They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. **13** Their throat *is* an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps *is* under their lips: **14** Whose mouth *is* full of cursing and bitterness: **15** Their feet *are* swift to shed blood: **16** Destruction and misery *are* in their ways: **17** And the way of peace have they not known: **18** There is no fear of God before their eyes.

**19** Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. **20** Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin. **21** But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; **22** Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: **23** For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; **24** Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

**John 1:14** And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, **(and we beheld his glory,** the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth... **17** For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

**That is why when Jesus was born it was a BIG DEAL! We beheld the GLORY OF GOD!**

**The shepherds sang! The Wise men brought gifts! It was a joyful time! He came with Good Will!**

**Even after we beheld His Glory....**

## **2. REJECTED by His Own**

**Here in this passage of Romans we find that the law was given to prove the whole world guilty before God!**

**John 1:11-12** He came unto his own, and his own received him not. **12** But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

### 3. ACCEPTED by the Few

**John 1:12** But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:

**Rom 11:22** Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness...

### 4. PROTRACTED in time –

*to draw out or lengthen, especially in time; extend the duration of; prolong.*

**2 Peter 3:9-10** The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

**And yet sadly, the God will of God is**

### 5. NEGLECTED by many

**Not necessarily REJECTED, but not ACCEPTED either... NEGLECTED!**

**Romans 2:4** Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

**Conclusion:**

**When He comes back, He is not coming with Good will....**