



“Do not be afraid.
I bring you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people.
Today in the town of town of David
a Savior has been born to you;
he is Christ the Lord!”



GOD'S PRICELESS GIFT:
FACING OUR FEARLESSNESS

Luke 2:8-11

FEAR AND THE CHRIST-FOLLOWER

An appropriate fear

Psalm 19:9; 111:10; Prov. 1:7

A sidenote

2 Timothy 1:7



“DO NOT BE AFRAID”

And the context?

The Incarnation

The statement shows clear evidence of

Compassion

Omniscience

Authority

CHRIST'S COMPASSION

We see God's heart of compassion perfectly displayed in Jesus

Just before sending out the 12 Matt 9:35-10:1

Interrupting a funeral procession Luke 7:11-17

Women with troubled pasts John 4; John 8

CHRIST'S OMNISCIENCE

As is often our case, the original audience had more questions than answers.

Were they shell-shocked?

Did they have complete understanding?

Could they see how the future would play out?

Did they know how and when 'everything was going to be okay?'



Was the Godhead just as clueless as the shepherds?
Absolutely not!

Because of Christ's omniscience, we can live in the
command "Do not be afraid"

CHRIST'S AUTHORITY

Christ demonstrated authority over all creation.

Winds and waves Matt 8:23-27

Demonic forces Mark 9:14-29

Material needs Matt 15:29ff

Physical ailments John 5:1-9

Death itself John 11



To those who were looking forward to the Incarnation of the Christ, the Scripture gave the command, “Do not be afraid!”

To those of us who are looking backward to the Incarnation, the Scripture demands, “Do not be afraid!”

May we live out this command with the assurance made possible through God’s Priceless Gift of Jesus...