GOD'S PRICELESS GIFT: INCARNATION MADE PERSONAL Luke 2:10-11

Two focal points:

"....great joy that will be for all the people."

"...a Savior has been born to you."

A CAUTION

Can I claim this promise?

So popular these days, 'claiming' someone else's promise from God. Interestingly, no one tried to hijack the promises of divine judgment...

And I've never heard anyone 'claim' God's promise to a young virgin... (Luke 1:31)

How can I know if it is a universal promises of God?

Is it defined by the text as being for "all" or "whoever," or is it to a specific person or group?

Is it repeated in various times and to various audiences, suggesting by context that they are for all people of all times, or is it an obscure single-use text?

Are there any conditional clauses?

BUT THIS ONES

This one is personal!

Consider these:

Luke 2:30-32 John 3:16 2 Cor. 5:16-19a

PICTURE A GRAND RESCUE STORY Prisoners of war experiencing freedom

A child trapped in a well delivered to safety

A firefighter escaping through the flames with an elderly victim

LEOs ending a hostage situation

LUKE 1:68-75

Zechariah prophesied that the Christ was coming on a rescue mission, but we don't approach the story as a reader devouring a great novel, immune to the perils of those in the story.

Indeed, this is the account of OUR rescue!

GREAT JOY FOR ALL THE PEOPLE The news came to The pure in heart The poor in spirit The poor in this world's goods The marginalized The ones with more questions than answers The ones minding their own business The named and the nameless...

And it came to YOU!

OUR RESPONSE?

See Isaiah 40

Don't assume your cause has been disregarded by God Vs. 27

Prepare your heart for Him Vss. 3-5

Wait in expectation Vss. 28-31