

ANNOUNCEMENT! ANNOUNCEMENT!

About 2000 years ago, on a chilly Judean night, SUDDENLY, an angelic messenger from heaven burst forth with the greatest of all ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Luke 2:8–11 (NKJV)

8 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

10 Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

John the apostle wrote so we might believe (Jn. 20:30-31). He introduces the book of John by telling us that Jesus is GOD!

John 1:1–4 (NKJV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2 He was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Jesus is called the WORD. We communicate with words and God has ultimately communicated Himself to us in the Person of Christ – THE WORD. And this Word is God! Then, a few verses later, John says that Jesus (Who is God) became a man – the GOD-MAN.

John 1:14 (NKJV)

14 And the Word became 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.

His glory was that He put God on display for all to see – being FULL of grace and truth!

The prophesied forerunner (John the Baptist) then introduced Jesus with this ANNOUNCEMENT!

John 1:29 (NKJV)

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

This was the God-provided sacrifice (the Lamb of God) Who takes away the sin of the world! Indeed, this is good news of great joy for ALL people!

But this good news must be received! The truth of it must be appropriated!

John 1:12 (NKJV)

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

Jesus must be received for WHO He is. He is received by believing on His name. His name is Who He is as the God-Man as the Lamb of God Who takes away our sin.

Have you received Jesus as your God-Savior? Have you believed in Him for Who He is?

In John 4 Jesus had a "divine appointment" with a Samaritan woman. She had no idea WHO she was interacting with, not realizing WHO Jesus was.

John 4:10 (NKJV)

10 Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water."

Have you asked Jesus to save you? Have you asked Him for the living water of eternal life? (see John 14:14)

In the book of Romans, Paul says if you believe in your heart and confess Jesus as Lord, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9–10 (NKJV)

9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Have you believed in your heart? Have you confessed with your mouth?

Romans 10:13 (NKJV)

13 For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Have you called on the name of the LORD for salvation?

We are not saved by praying, but in our hearts, if we truly believe, that faith then expresses itself in confession!

What say you? Who is Jesus to you?

Have you received Jesus by believing in Him as your God-Savior?

Have you asked Him for the gift of eternal life?

Have you believed in your HEART?

Have you confessed Jesus as Lord?

Have you called on the name of the LORD?

This greatest of all announcements comes with the greatest of all invitations resulting in the greatest of all consequences – either eternal heaven or eternal hell!

The last invitation in the Bible comes at the very end of the Book!

Revelation 22:17 (NKJV)

17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Come!

Come!

Come!