

Hope Under the Sun, Part 3

Luke 2:8-14

Ecclesiastes has prepared us for the first verse of "Oh Holy Night":

*"Oh holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of our dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pinning,
Till He appears and the soul felt it's worth
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices"*

1. He came to be and bring hope (10a, 11)

- Fear not
- A Savior
- Who is Christ the Lord
 - Our Savior is Christ the Lord
 - He can be Savior because He is Lord
 - Not one without the other
 - Notice we don't make Him Lord, he was Lord before He was born
- as Lord the Savior
 - He saves us from sin (past, present, future)
 - He saves us from bondage under the sun
 - He saves us from empty hope
 - He saves us from meaningless life
 - He saves us from broken families and friendships
 - He saves us from despair and defeat
- He can because He is Lord
 - He saves us by bringing us under His Lordship, that is good and sweet
 - He offers us a better way
 - A lasting way
 - A life lived in light from above the sun

2. We are here to carry hope (11b)

- good news of great joy that will be for all people
 - Notice the "will be"
 - Good news of great joy for all people should be what marks our lives and language
 - Does this good news still bring your great joy?
 - Buddy the elf
- His plan is that His kingdom of hope spreads its borders by the preaching of this good news of great joy
 - Our King broadens the borders of His kingdom not by fight but faithful witness
 - Our message is a military attack against the forces of evil
 - We go where people are stuck under the curse under the sun
- the incarnation is our message
- The incarnation is our model