"FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR" <u>LUKE 2:11</u>

INTRO: During the Christmas Season many things occur which LURES US AWAY FROM THE REAL REASON FOR THE SEASON! These things include parties, commercialism, church events, and the humanistic element of the season all together. What a shame it is to go through the Christmas Season without putting the FOCUS upon the REAL REASON FOR THE SEASON, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST! Webster's College Dictionary says that Christmas is: "THE ANNUAL CHRISTIAN FESTIVAL COMMEMORATING JESUS' BIRTH, CELEBRATED IN THE WESTERN CHURCH ON DECEMBER 25TH." That really is a pretty good definition. I like to say that Christmas is simply: THE CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS! As Christians, we must keep it that way! Why? Because UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR without Whom you would be eternally lost! When we think of that, HOW IN THE WORLD CAN WE ALLOW ANYTHING TO DISTRACT US FROM THE TRUTH AND THE REAL REASON FOR CHRISTMAS? Allowing ourselves to get DISTRACTED FROM THE REAL REASON FOR CHRISTMAS truly borders on SACRILEDGE AND BLASPHEMY! Let's examine the phrase, "FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN A SAVIOR."

I. THE FOCUS ON THE SAVIOR BEING BORN - VS. 11a

"FOR UNTO YOU"

OUESTION: WHO DOES THE "YOU" REFER TO?

- A. "You," The Nation of Israel who had been looking for a Savior since their beginning. Isaiah 2:4; 9:6; 61:1; Jeremiah 23:5; Micah 5:2
- B. "You," The Shepherds on the hillside watching their sheep Vs. 8 QUESTION: Why was the announcement of Christ's birth given to shepherds?
 - 1. Because the FIRST BLOOD SACRIFICE was given by Abel, who was a shepherd Genesis 4:1-4
 - 2. Because the FAVORITE SYMBOL FOR CHRIST IN THE NT is that of a shepherd John 10:14
- 3. Because of the FAMED HUMILITY AND POVERTY of shepherds in the day who were simply doing their duty as God appointed them.
 - C. "You," The People of the Whole World Vs. 10
 - 1. The Primary Group of People
 - -The Jewish Nation: John 1:10-12; Romans 1:16
 - 2. The Secondary Group of People
- -All the people of the world, because all the people of the world are born in sin and NEED A SAVIOR! ILLUSTRATION:

II. THE FACT OF THE SAVIOR BEING BORN - VS. 11b

"IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID"

A. "Is Born"

- 1. The REALITY that Christ is FULLY HUMAN which was necessary for Him to die under the law and pay the penalty of our sins.
- 2. The REALITY of the "HYPOSTATIC UNION" of Christ which teaches that Christ is TOTALLY ONE WITH GOD the Father in everything which was necessary for Him to provide the perfect sacrifice for our sins.
 - B. "This Day"
- 1. The Exact Day God had in mind from eternity past which probably was not December 25, but sometime from late August to mid September.
- 2. The Exact Day of the Fullness of the Time Galatians 4:4 ILLUSTRATION:

III. THE FEATURE OF THE SAVIOR BEING BORN - VS. 11c

"A SAVIOR WHICH IS CHRIST THE LORD"

NOTE: This is a BOLD PRESENTATION OF THE GOSPEL right there at the birth of Christ!

NOTE: This phrase shows the THREE ETERNAL AND DIVINE TITLES OF CHRIST.

- A. "A Savior" The One who CONFRONTED all the sin of the world with Divine authority and redeeming power.
 - 1. In the NT this word was never applied to a mere man but ONLY to GOD the Father and GOD the Son.
 - 2. Jesus is the Savior of the World because He AUTHORED AND PROVIDED SALVATION for the world.
- 3. The word "Savior" presupposes a danger and a disaster from which the rescuer snatches the one whom he is helping. It further suggests the deliverance from the worst affliction and trouble known to mankind THE DELIVERANCE FROM SIN!

OUR PROPER RESPONSE: Thank Christ and Trust Him as your Savior.

- B. "Christ" The One who CONFRONTED all the chaos of the world and Who will bring the whole world into harmony with God in His Kingdom.
- -This title places Jesus ABOVE all other men because it denotes that He is the "ANOINTED OF GOD" Who came to fulfill all the promises for the Messiah.

OUR PROPER RESPONSE: Exalt, Praise, Honor

- C. "The Lord" The One who CONFRONTED all ages and eternity as the SUPREME RULER AND POTENTATE.
 - 1. The title "Lord" denotes power, firmness, competency, lawfulness and sovereignty.
- 2. The early Christians referred to Jesus as Lord to show that He was above the Human Level, the Object of Prayer, the Object of Trust, the Sovereign God, The One of Authority, the One to which Every Knee must bow.

OUR PROPER RESPONSE: Worship, Service, Obedience, Submission ILLUSTRATION:

APPLICATION: Christmas is NOT JUST ANOTHER HOLIDAY! It is the time to CELEBRATE JESUS! As Christmas approaches, in the midst of all that you do, plan and figure out how YOU are going to CELEBRATE JESUS. You will be blessed. Others will be encouraged. God will be Honored. Christ will be Exalted.