Christmas Message "Come and see what God has done"

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Christmas Song & Carol "Noel"

(Lyrics by Chris Tomlin, sung by Lauren Daigle) www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Vwu-t7QRaE

Love incarnate, love divine Star and angels gave the sign Bow to Babe on bended knee The Savior of humanity Unto us a Child is born He shall reign forevermore

Noel, Noel Come and see what God has done Noel, Noel The story of amazing love The light of the world, given for us Noel

Son of God and Son of man There before the world began Born to suffer, born to save Born to raise us from the grave Christ the everlasting Lord He shall reign forevermore

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Noel, Noel Come and see what God has done Noel, Noel The story of amazing love! The light of the world, given for us Noel, Noel

- The word 'NOEL' is borrowed from the French language
- It has its origins in Latin where the word means 'pertaining to birth'
- We use the word "NOEL" at Christmas with exclusive reference to the birth of Jesus Christ
- French-speaking people use the word 'Noel' to refer to 'Christmas'
- The amazing thing about this song is that each line in the lyrics is based on a Bible passage that is either:
 - A prophecy about Jesus Christ
 - o Or a direct fulfilment of such a prophecy

Luke 2:8–14 (LB) That night some shepherds were in the fields outside the village, guarding their flocks of sheep. 9 Suddenly an angel appeared among them, and the landscape shone bright with the glory of the Lord. They were badly frightened, 10 but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you the most joyful news ever announced, and it is for

everyone! 11 The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born tonight in Bethlehem! 12 How will you recognize him? You will find a baby wrapped in a blanket, lying in a manger!" 13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God: 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven," they sang, "and peace on earth for all those pleasing him."

Luke 2:15–16 (LB) When this great army of angels had returned again to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "<u>Come</u> on! Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's <u>see</u> this wonderful thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." **16** They ran to the village and found their way to Mary and Joseph. **And there was the baby, lying in the manger.**

- The message was: "Come & see what the Lord has done"
- The message is the same today: "Come & see what the Lord has done"
- 2000 years ago, God gave us the gift of His Son who would become the Saviour of everyone who would look to Him in faith

A. SOME OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS' BIRTH

Isaiah 9:6–7 (NKJV) For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

 Prophet Isaiah prophesied the birth of Jesus Christ over 700 years before it took place

God foretold the birth of His Son through His prophets in amazing detail:

- 1. God revealed to Isaiah that He would send His Son into the world who would eventually become the Supreme Ruler over all of His creation
- 2. God revealed to prophet Isaiah that His Son would be born of a virgin

Isaiah 7:14 (AMP) Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, the young woman who is unmarried and <u>a virgin shall conceive</u> and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel [God with us].

3. God revealed to prophet Micah that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem

Micah 5:2 (NET) As for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, seemingly insignificant among the clans of Judah— <u>from you a King will emerge</u> who will rule over Israel on my behalf, one whose origins are in the distant past.

- Each prophecy was fulfilled in precisely the detail it was given
- There are some corresponding Scripture passages of their fulfilment

B. SOME N.T. FULFILMENT OF PROPHECIES ABOUT JESUS' BIRTH

Matthew 1:18 (NLT) This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 2:1–2 (NLT) Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, 2 "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

Whenever the Bible refers to Jesus Christ, it does so in one of two ways:

- i. It records prophecies about Him to foretell His future
- ii. It records the fulfilment of these prophecies
 - 1. The Bible prophesied His supernatural conception
 - 2. The Bible prophesied the place of His birth
 - 3. The Bible prophesied the miracles He would perform
 - 4. The Bible prophesied His death, and why and how He would die
 - 5. The Bible prophesied His resurrection from the dead
 - 6. The Bible prophesied His ascension to heaven
 - 7. The Bible prophesied His return to earth to set up His Kingdom

Here are the "main points" of what the Bible communicates to us today:

- a. Jesus Christ was born for the sole purpose of dying on the cross for our sins
- b. If we surrender our lives to Him & accept Him as our Lord & Saviour, we will be saved from eternal damnation
- c. The time to surrender our lives to Him is NOW
- d. Once Jesus returns to earth as Supreme Ruler, it's too late

Acts 17:30–31 (NLT) God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him. 31 For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.

C. Three Perspectives of Jesus Christ

- 1. At His birth, people **looked down** at Him
- 2. At His crucifixion, people looked on
- 3. At His Return to earth, people will look up to Him

Luke 21:28 (NKJV) Now when these things begin to happen, <u>look up</u> and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.

D. What is your Perspective of Jesus Christ today?

1. Are you **looking down** on Jesus (with disdain?)

2. Are you looking on from a distance (with indifference?)

3. Are you looking up to His soon return to earth? (with anticipation?)

E. The most important Question today

• Have you received Jesus Christ yet as your personal Lord and Saviour?

John 1:12–13 (NKJV) But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 13 who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

Salvation Prayer:

"Heavenly Father, I thank You that You sent Your Son Jesus Christ into the world to save me. I recognise that I have broken Your commandments, and that I cannot save myself by my own good deeds. Lord Jesus, I thank You that You have taken the punishment for my sins by dying on the cross. I make a decision now to surrender my whole life to You and everything that I have. I receive You now as my personal Lord and Saviour. I thank You that I am now forgiven, and that I am now born again. Please lead me and guide me and show me Your plan and purpose for my life. Help me to be strong so that I can live according to Your purpose and for my life. I pray this in Jesus' Name, amen. "