

Sermon Notes for December 3, 2005 A.M.

Morning: “The Holy Spirit and Christmas” Ephesians 4:30 (Pew Bible page 1040)

“And the angel said unto them, ‘Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of **great joy**, which shall be to all people.’” Luke 2:10 (905) “And the angel (Gabriel) said unto her (Mary), “**The Holy Spirit** shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that Holy One which shall be born of thee shall be called **the Son of God.**” Luke 1:35 (903)

I. The Grieving of the Spirit. “And do not **grieve** the Holy Spirit of God.” Ephesians 4:30; Luke 1:5-22 “I am Gabriel that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee and to show thee these glad tidings . . . Thou believest not my words which shall be fulfilled in their season.” Grieving the Holy Spirit means to give pain to God. The Holy Ghost is our ever present Holy Guest.

- His **Religion** had become a **ritual**— Luke 1:8-9, 1:19 “He executed the priest’s office . . . In the order of his course, according to the custom”
- His **Vision** had lost its **victory**— Luke 1:18 “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man!” He looked at himself rather than at God!
- His **Belief** had grown **barren**— Luke 1:20-22 “You did not believe my words which shall come true at the proper time!”

II. The Giving of the Spirit— “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be **filled** with the Spirit.” Ephesians 5:18; Luke 1:62-67 “And Zacharias his father was **filled** with the Holy Spirit.” “How much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?” Luke 11:13

- **Humble** souls receive the Holy Spirit. Luke 1:63 “His name is John”
- **Hungry** souls receive the Holy Spirit. Luke 1:64-65 “His tongue was loosed, and he spoke, and praised God.”
- From the **Hand** of the Lord we receive the Holy Spirit. Luke 1:66-67 “And Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, Blessed be the Lord God of Israel.”

III. The Glory of the Spirit— “The Holy Spirit of God, whereby you are sealed unto the day of redemption.” Ephesians 4:30 “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for He hath visited and redeemed His people. And, thou, child shall be called the prophet of the Highest for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways.” Luke 1:67-68, 76 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” Luke 2:14

- The Glory of security **Today** — “Whereby you are **sealed**” Ephesians 4:30
- The Glory of satisfaction in **That Day**.— “unto **the day** of redemption” Proverbs 4:18 (562); Psalm 17:15 (487)

- He came at Christmas to go to Calvary — That **was** glory!
- He comes to our hearts — That **is** glory!
- He will come again one day — That **will be** glory!

“ Oh, Christ, be born in me today.”

“Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
Glory to the new-born King.”