

Third Sunday of Advent 2024
“Good News of Great Joy” (part 2)
Text: Luke 2:8-11

I. Introduction & review

1. Two vital actions related to the gospel: the reporting of facts and the removal of fear
2. Good news that results in great joy: salvation, no condemnation, and rescue from hell

II. The good news that results in great joy (continued)

1. The good news of imputed righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21)
2. The good news of justification (Romans 5:9; Romans 3:23-24)
3. The good news of forgiveness (Ephesians 1:7)
4. The good news of reconciliation (Romans 5:10)
5. The good news of eternal fellowship with God (1 Peter 3:18)

IV. Conclusion – pondering 1 Corinthians 2:9-14

QUOTES

1. George Whitfield:

Jesus was God and man in one person, that God and man might be happy together again.

2. R. C. Sproul:

- *Justification is an act of God whereby He declares unjust sinners to be just after He has imputed to them the righteousness of Christ.*
- *We need an Augustine or a Luther to speak to us anew lest the light of God's grace be not only overshadowed but be obliterated in our time.*

3. Glen Scrivener:

- *[Saul] was not soft-hearted, ready for Christ's appearance. The grace of Jesus is not attracted to soft-heartedness. The grace of Jesus creates soft-heartedness where before there was stony opposition.*
- *The conversion of Paul is not meant to make us despair, asking where is my Damascus Road experience? The conversion of Paul gives us hope. It shows that the grace of Jesus extends even to His greatest enemies.*

4. Charles Spurgeon:

- *No more love to God is there in an unrenewed hearts than there is life within a piece of granite. No more love to God is there within the soul that is unsaved than there is fire within the depths of the ocean waves. And here is the wonder, that when we had no love for God, He should have loved us.*
- *I do think that this is the grandest thing in heaven and earth – Jesus Christ the just one did for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. It is meat to my soul. I can feed on it every day and all the day.*

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

- **1 Tim. 1:15; Matt. 1:21, Rom. 8:1; Matt. 25:46**
- **1 Pet. 2:24; Is. 59:1-2**
- **Rom. 4:22-25**
- **1 Cor. 15:3; Col. 1:13-14; Heb. 10:10, 17**
- **Acts 9:1-9**
- **Ps. 16:9-11; John 1:4-5**