THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

"*Appreciating the Good News*"

Isaiah 9:6

INTRODUCTION:

1. ***Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:21; Luke 2:14***

2. **Isaiah 9:6**

a) "***For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given***"

3. **John 3:16** contains some of the most powerful, and transformational, information in the Bible.

4. People really don't appreciate the **Good News** until they get the **Bad News** or understand the problem.

a) What's the problem? **SIN**

b) We are the problem!!!!

1) ***Romans 3:23***

c) Nobody's going to Heaven. Nobody.

1) ***Romans 3:10***

2) ***Genesis 6:5***

3) ***Jeremiah 17:9***

5. In Theology we call this the **Depravity of Man**.

a) ***Isaiah 53:6***

1) "***<u>All we</u> like sheep have gone <u>astray</u>***"

2) "***<u>we have turned</u> – <u>everyone</u> – to his <u>own way</u>***"

I. FIRST THE <u>BAD</u> NEWS

A. <u>BIBLICAL</u> EVIDENCE

1. To do that we need some robust Theology to stretch our minds.

2. **<u>The doctrine of the Depravity of man</u>** means that every facet of our human nature is polluted, defiled, and contaminated by sin.

3. <u>Here's a big question for you</u>: "***Is it easier to do right, or to do wrong?"***

a) ***1 Corinthians 9:24-26***

b) ***Ephesians 4:17-24***

4. ***Ephesians 2:1-3***

5. Remember - **The doctrine of the Depravity of man** means that every facet of our human nature is polluted, defiled, and contaminated by sin.

6. Man cannot save himself nor can he do anything to prepare himself for Salvation.
   a) ***1 Corinthians 15:10***

B. PERSONAL EVIDENCE

1. ***Genesis 6:5***

2. ***Isaiah 64:6***

3. **Isaiah 59:1-8; 9-13**

4. ***Romans 6:23***

II. THE GOOD NEWS

1. What we could not do, God did for us in sending His Son.
   a) This is the message of Christmas.

2. ***Romans 5:8***

A. GOD DID SOMETHING DIFFERENT

1. ***Isaiah 9:6***
   a) "***For unto us***"

2. In every strained relationship there is reciprocation!
   a) Reciprocation is to respond in like manner.

3. **Reconciliation** is the opposite of **reciprocation.**

4. **Vs 6**
   a) "***For unto us***"

5. **Very Important**: What should our **RESPONSE** be to the Good News?
   a) **First** – *Receive it*!!
      1) **Question**: *Have you made the Gospel your own*?
         a. ***John 1:12***

   b) **Secondly** – *Replicate it*!!!
      1) Means you want others to be saved.
         a. Team mates, class mates, co-workers, family, friends, etc.

2) ***2 Corinthians 5:17-21***

c) **Thirdly** – *Repeat it*!!!

1) Treat others the way you want to be treated!!!

2) ***Romans 12:17***

B. GOD DID IT <u>HUMBLY</u>

1. **Vs 6**

a) "For unto us"

b) "***a child is born***"

1) That's Christ's humanity.

2. ***Philippians 2:3-8***

a) The Kenosis – the self emptying

3. God came as a child.

a) 100% man

b) 100% God

C. GOD DID SOMETHING <u>PERSONAL</u>

1. **Vs 6**

a) "***unto us a son is given***"

1) The second person of the trinity.

a. God the Father

b. God the Son

c. God the Holy Spirit

2. ***John 10:30***

D. GOD DID SOMETHING <u>ACTIVE</u>

1. **Vs 6**

a) "*For unto us*"

b) "*a child is born*"

c) "*Unto us a son is given*"

d) "***given***"

2. God acted on the problem.

a) **John 3:16**

3. God gave the most precious and needed gift ever!!

CONCLUSION:

1. ***Matthew 7:13-14***