**Sermon Outline** First Baptist Church

December 17, 2017 (morning)

“The Night God Gave His Son”

**Luke 2:1-20**

**I. In His sovereignty, God orchestrated the place for His Son’s birth (vs. 1-7).**

A. God appointed the place for the birth of Christ.

B. God appointed the time for the birth of Christ.

C. God arranged the events for the birth of Christ.

(1 Samuel 17:12, 58; Micah 5:2; John 1:11; Galatians 4:4)

**II. In His compassion, God announced to mankind the time of His Son’s birth (vs. 8-14).**

A. The shepherds were the recipients of God’s announcement.

B. Great joy is the message of God’s announcement.

C. Heavenly praise accompanied God’s announcement.

(Luke 1:13, 19-20, 36-37, 39-41, 64; 1 John 3:23; 4:10)

**III. With reverence, the shepherds responded to God’s revelation of His Son’s birth (vs. 15-20).**

A. The Shepherds sought to discover what God had made known to them.

B. The Shepherds testified to others about what God had made known to them.

C. The Shepherds glorified God for what He had made known to them.

(Isaiah 29:13-14; Jeremiah 29:13)

**Scripture References and Notes**

**decree**

* δόγμα (dogma)
* a formal statement concerning rules or regulations that are to be observed
  1. *ordinance, decision, command*
  2. of an imperial declaration, *decree*

**census**

* ἀπογράφω (apographó)
* I enroll, inscribe in a register
* I enroll, inscribe in a register; mid: I give my name for registration (or census-taking).
* to write-off’ i.e. to copy, a common term for the making of copies of official documents. Hence to enter into a list, register
  1. of official registration in tax lists
  2. of records kept by God
* 4 Occurrences

**governor**

* ἡγεμονεύω (hégemoneuó)
* to exercise an administrative position, *be leader, command, rule, order*
* I govern
* 2 Occurrences

1 Samuel 17:12, 58

**12** Now David was the son of the Ephrathite of Bethlehem in Judah, whose name was Jesse, and he had eight sons. And Jesse was old in the days of Saul, advanced *in years* among men.

**58** Saul said to him, “Whose son are you, young man?” And David answered, “*I am* the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.”

John 1:11

He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.

Micah 5:2

“But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Too* little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.”

Galatians 4:4

**4** But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, **5**so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

Luke 1:13, 19-20, 64

**13**But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John.

**19**The angel answered and said to him, “I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news.**20**And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time.”

**64**And at once his mouth was opened and his tongue *loosed*, and he *began* to speak in praise of God.

Luke 1:36-37, 39-41

**36** And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. **37**For nothing will be impossible with God.”

**39**Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, **40**and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. **41**When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

1 John 4:10

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 3:23

This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.

Jeremiah 29:13

You will seek Me and find *Me* when you search for Me with all your heart.

Isaiah 29:13-14

**13**Then the Lord said, “Because this people draw near with their words And honor Me with their lip service, But they remove their hearts far from Me, And their reverence for Me consists of tradition learned *by rote*,  
**14**Therefore behold, I will once again deal marvelously with this people, wondrously marvelous; And the wisdom of their wise men will perish, And the discernment of their discerning men will be concealed.”

**wondered**

* θαυμάζω (thaumazó)
* to be extraordinarily impressed or disturbed by something
* wonder, be amazed

**treasured**

* συντηρέω (suntéreó)
* I preserve, keep safe, keep in mind
* to store information in one’s mind for careful consideration, *hold or treasure up*