

For the week of December 20, 2020

Preacher: Scott Grant

Peace On Earth

Christmas Message from Luke 2

If the angels in the second chapter of the gospel of Luke were signaling peace on earth as they commemorated the birth of Jesus, one could be forgiven for surmising that they were misinformed, for war has continued unabated on earth from the day Jesus was born until this day. However, what's true of most books is true of the gospel of Luke: you need to keep reading.

Discussion Questions:

1. Note the difference between the angels' proclamation of peace on earth (Luke 2:51) and Jesus' declaration that he came not to bring peace on earth but division (Luke 2:51-53). What might we make of the difference?
2. Those of us who have received Jesus have peace with God (Romans 5:1). If you have received Jesus, how have you experienced, and how do you experience peace with God?
3. Christ is our peace, and he makes peace between and among his followers (Ephesians 2:14-16). If you have received Jesus, how have you experienced, and how do you experience, peace in relationships with others who have received Jesus?
4. "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all." Although it may not be possible to live peaceably with all, we can endeavor to do so by refusing to return evil for evil and by blessing those who persecute us (Romans 12:14-18). How does this strike you?