



“Greeting Team”

For Sunday, February 6

Remember: Meet in the coat room @ **10:30 am** for brief prayer & then go “welcome” people! NOTE: Keep an eye on the auditorium for those who slipped past!

Greeters this week:

Erickson Thursday Night;
Jen Hagler Thursday Night

- 1st— Erickson Thursday PM;
Jen Hagler Thursday PM
- 2nd— Justin Taylor Sunday Night;
- 3rd—Randy Ehlers Sunday Night;
- 4th—Curt Mastbergen Sunday Noon;
Tackett Sunday Night

Small Groups @ MBC

*Meet A Minimum Of
2 Times A Month*

-Guide To: Small Group Ministry @ MBC

Announcements

1. A Great Website!
Have you visited
www.thegospelcoalition.org?
Great source of Biblical info!
2. A Great Read: Check out
“Person Of Interest”
by J. Warner Wallace.
(Subject: Apologetics)

The Humility of Jesus Christ!

Perhaps the attribute; or, character quality, of God, that we most often forget, is His humility! The Bible affirms the humility of God in Jesus. And, let’s remember that Jesus said, “...if you’ve seen Me, you HAVE SEEN the Father...”; and, “...I and the Father are ONE...”; or, One & the same, He meant. They were of the exact same substance! So, if you want to know what God is like, just look at Jesus because He IS God! And, because God, in Christ, has written Himself into the story of human history, we can see Him & hear Him! We can touch; and, be touched by Him! And, Luke, in his Gospel, reveals the humility of Jesus in the announcement of His birth; and, in His entry into this world:

“...shepherds were staying out in the fields and keeping watch at night over their flock. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: Today a Savior, who is Messiah the Lord, was born for you in the city of David. This will be the sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths & lying in a manger” 2:8-12. So, again, to whom did the angels announce the wonderful news about the birth of Jesus, the Messiah? To shepherds, right? Really? That’s how God announced His arrival? I’m pretty sure that’s not how most of us would have scripted it if we were God! Actor Chris Pratt; and, his wife, Katherine Schwarzenegger recently announced that they’re expecting a baby in 2022. Now, I’m pretty sure that on the day their baby is born that they won’t be sending messengers down to the docks so the fishermen can be the 1st to hear the great news; or, to all the cab drivers in America. No! You know how it works with human royalty! There’ll be gold-leafed announcements sent to all the prominent people in Hollywood. And, all the tabloids will have perfect pictures of the couple with their newborn child. My intent, in sharing those thoughts, is not so much to bash on the actor & his wife as it is to emphasize the humility of God. In God’s humility, He bypasses the customary ways of the world’s rich & famous; and, announces His coming to lowly, disrespected & marginalized shepherds. Bible scholars tell us that, *“Shepherds were detestable and unreliable. They sometimes couldn’t testify in court. Nobody wanted to be a shepherd. Shepherds were despised by the ‘good’ respectable people of that day...The only people lower than shepherds at that particular time in Jewish history were lepers.”* (From *The Shepherd Of Israel* by Dwight Pryor). God was revealing something to us about His “name”; or, His character! He reveals that He’s a God who cares for the lowly and the needy!

God’s Character

He cares for the humble in this world; for the marginalized and for people who are easily discarded or cast aside. He’s the Savior of everyone who humbly admits they need a Savior. He’s the friend of sinners! He eats with tax collectors; welcomes prostitutes; heals Gentiles; and, He’s willing to touch lepers who hadn’t felt a human touch ever since they were overcome by a contagious disease. He’s a God who doesn’t discriminate based on race or the color of someone’s skin! He created beautiful diversity in people groups. The humility of God, in Jesus, is also apparent in the cloth the shepherds found Him wrapped in. Luke records that they would, *“...find the baby wrapped in swaddling cloths & lying in a manger.”* According to the Jewish oral traditions, these cloths were used to wrap lambs that were destined to be Passover lambs; and, they were also used for burial cloths! Jesus’ humble birth was prophetic of his humble death!