

Summary of Todays' Message

An Ordinary Night

If you stop to think about it, how could it have been anything else? Days and nights proceed in a generally predictable fashion. Things happen in this world. Some of those things take your breath away, true, but most of the time even the most remarkable, awe-inspiring experiences we have are not unique to us, but are common to all

Summary of Todays' Message

We wake up, take care of our personal hygiene, eat, drink, move about, work, play, interact with others. All over the world, our cultural differences aside, we approach life in remarkably similar ways.

Summary of Todays' Message

Human life proceeds along its ordinary paths day after day after day. It is an exceedingly rare day when the heavens open, the dove descends, and the Unseen One speaks. Most days, it's just life. But the night Jesus was born the ordinary became the extraordinary.

Introductory Comments

Most of us live just <u>ordinary</u> lives but once in a while some things happen to us that takes our <u>breath</u> away

Despite the cradle hymn we sing, the "little Lord Jesus" surely cried upon entering this life and sucking in the sharp air of that drafty room.

Introductory Comments

It was just an <u>ordinary</u> night. A woman had a baby, and she and her husband were happy.

It was just a typical night shepherds keeping watch over their flock.

The Shepherds and the Sheep

The sheep were <u>ordinary</u> sheep

Sheep are the dumbest animals on the face of the earth

Shepherds were at the lowest pay scale

The Angels

Suddenly an angel made a proclamation from the sky There is no reference given to the angels singing

The Angels

The Bible states that "a multitude of the heavenly host (angels)" (Luke 2:13) were visibly seen by shepherds shouting for joy over the birth of the Lord. How much is a "multitude?" Scripture does not say. If, however, we take Daniel 7:10 and Revelation 5:11 literally, then at least 100 million righteous angels serve the Eternal.

The Angels

An angel appeared to Joseph a few times

An angel appeared to Zechariah

An angel appeared to Mary

Can an angel be trusted?

The angel said peace on earth good will toward men

What is the peace that the angel was talking about?

It was not global peace

Since recorded history there has only been peace 8% of the time-365 days

The angel is talking about individual inward personal peace

What is the peace that the angel was talking about?

John 14:7 Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do, I give to you.

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Where Do You Find This Peace?

When you lose something, you go back to where you lost it in order to find it

You will find peace when you go back in your spiritual journey and find out

where you got off the <u>rail</u>-sin, rebellion, passive indifference-doing my own thing

Jesus came to give you peace-do you have it?