

## Christ The Messiah – Luke 2.8-14

<sup>8</sup>And there were shepherds in the same country abiding in the field, and keeping watch by night over their flock. <sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said unto them, Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: <sup>11</sup>for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this is the sign unto you: Ye shall find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, and lying in a manger. <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, <sup>14</sup>Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased (Luke 2.8-14, ASV).<sup>1</sup>

### Memory Verse – And the angel said unto them, Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people – Luke 2.10

Yesterday we looked the ‘Good Tidings’ the angel brought to the shepherds, how the Savior, Jesus Christ was born. This news was not just for the shepherds but for all people and of course after the shepherds saw the Christ child, they told everyone what they had seen.

We look at why Jesus Christ had the title ‘Savior’ and what it meant. So, now let us take a deeper look at the other two titles the angel proclaimed to the shepherds that Christmas morning. He told them ‘a Savior, who is Christ the Lord’ had been born. Savior is someone who delivers or rescues and as we discussed yesterday, Jesus Christ surely filled this titled as He died on the cross, was buried and rose on the third day. Paying the price for our sins, and making a way for us to enter the throne room of our Heavenly Father possible (Romans 6.23; Philippians 2.5-11; Hebrews 10.19).

Christ literally means ‘one who has been anointed.’<sup>2</sup> In the New Testament *christos* is used generally of the coming “anointed one” (“Messiah”) of Jewish expectation or specifically of Jesus, believed to be this “Messiah.”<sup>3</sup>

This child was the long-awaited Messiah that was prophesied by Isaiah, “A child has been born to us; God has given a son to us. He will be responsible for leading the people. His name will be Wonderful Counselor, Powerful God, Father Who Lives Forever, Prince of Peace. Power and peace will be in his kingdom and will continue to grow forever. He will rule as king on David’s throne and over David’s kingdom. He will make it strong by ruling with justice and goodness from now on and forever. The LORD All-Powerful will do this because of his strong love for his people” (Isaiah 9.6-7, NCV).<sup>4</sup>

So, this child is our Savior and our Messiah, He is our Deliverer and Anointed One. Finally, the angel told the shepherds the child would be called ‘Lord.’ In our world this word has one meaning but in the biblical or our spiritual world this term ‘Lord’ has a different meaning. Let’s take a moment and look at both and see the difference between them.

First the way we might see ‘lord’ in our lives in this world; the word ‘lord’ is used “as appellation for a person or deity who has authority, control, or power over others, acting like a master, a chief, or a ruler. The appellation can also denote certain persons who hold a title of the peerage in the United Kingdom, or are entitled to courtesy titles”.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> [American Standard Version](#). (1995). (Lk 2:8–14). Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

<sup>2</sup> Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). [Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: based on semantic domains](#) (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 542). New York: United Bible Societies.

<sup>3</sup> Jonge, M. de. (1992). [Christ](#). In D. N. Freedman (Ed.), *The Anchor Yale Bible Dictionary* (Vol. 1, p. 914). New York: Doubleday.

<sup>4</sup> [The Everyday Bible: New Century Version](#). (2005). (Is 9:6–7). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc.

<sup>5</sup> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord#:~:text=Lord%20is%20an%20appellation%20for,are%20entitled%20to%20courtesy%20titles>.

Second, in the terms of spiritual life 'Lord' is applied to Jesus Christ and it has some of the same meanings as those described above. For example, Christ should be the Master and Ruler of our lives, however, we do not always allow Christ to be the Lord of our lives. Jesus Christ as Lord should be One who exercises supernatural authority over our lives.

So, even though there are some similarities between how we might use the term 'lord' and the way the angel was using the term 'Lord;' the angel's Lord has more power, more authority, and more control over all things than our earthly lord.

These terms we see in the Bible are meant to give us insight into who this child is to become, but also who He already was. He will become our Savior, Christ the Lord, but He was already God the Son, Creator of the world, and without Him was not anything made which was made (John 1.3; Colossians 1.15-17).

The angel declared these good tidings to the shepherds, the Savior, Christ the Lord was born in Bethlehem and they would find Him wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in the manger. After the angel had told them this, a great host of angels appeared to him and sang praises to the glory of God.

The shepherds did not wait, they went into town to see these amazing things which had been told to them, to see the Savior, Christ the Lord. The Bible tells us they made 'haste' meaning they did not waste any time. Think about it, maybe Mary and Joseph found a place to stay, or they decided to move on. If they do not get going, they would miss this amazing sight the angel had just told them about.

When God speaks to us, we must get up and get going, we cannot just sit around and wait. We cannot just see if something different will come along, because what God has told us to do just might have an expiration date on it. We might miss out on the blessing. So, rise up like the shepherds and make haste; go now and see the amazing thing God has in store for us.

## **Application**

1. How does understanding the terms 'Savior, Christ and Lord' change your view of who Jesus Christ is? Please explain.
2. How can you change your life to allow Jesus to be your Savior, Christ and Lord? If He is already your Savior, is He allowed to be Christ in your life as well as Lord? Please Explain
3. Reading John 1.3 and Colossians 1.15-17 explain how this child could be the Creator and yet be born? How was everything created for Him and by Him? You can use other scripture to support your explanation.
4. Commit to learning Luke 2.10 and find one person to share the Biblical Christmas Story with.

## **Prayer**

God once again, as I read Your wonderful story of Your Son's birth I am reminded of how loving and caring You are. You brought the message of Your Son's birth to lowly shepherds who were in the field doing their work. But, for You, they were the most important people to know about Your Son's birth. Thank You for caring to bring the Saviors 'Good Tidings' to such lowly people, reminding us we can all come to You for the 'Free Gift of Salvation' found in Your Son, who was born as Jesus Christ, Savior of the World. Grant me boldness to share this wonderful message today and every day until Christ returns. I pray all this in Jesus Christ's Name, Amen.