

**Speaker:** Associate Pastor Richard Yun  
**Title :** The Promise of Peace  
**Text :** Luke 2: 8-14

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8 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

10 Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

14 " Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

## Introduction

- According to the ***Canadian Army Journal***, since 3600 B.C., the world has known only 292 years of peace. During this period there have been 14,531 wars. An estimated 3,640,000,000 lives have been lost in them. The value of them would pay for a golden belt around the world, 97 miles wide and 33 feet deep.
- "*Peace on earth, goodwill toward men.*" Is it just an impossible dream? If Christ came to bring peace on earth, why is there so much hatred and so little peace?

## Two Possible Answers

### I. Peace Does Not Come to the Earth Because of the Condition of the Human Heart.

Jeremiah the prophet said it this way:

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked. Who can know it?"  
(Jeremiah 17:9)

### II. Peace Comes to the Earth One Heart at a Time.

- On earth peace...what kind of peace? Salvation peace. No longer is God our enemy and we His enemy but reconciliation has come.
- Here is a testimony of salvation peace and the power of Jesus Christ to reconcile former enemies and turn them into friends.

—Jacob DeShazer who hated the Japanese found Christ in a prisoner of war camp(Photo 1)



–Mitsuo Fuchida who led the attack at Pearl Harbor found Christ after reading Jake DeShazer's tract. (show the photo)



Commander Mitsuo Fuchida training for the Pearl Harbor attack, October 1941



DeShazer and Fuchida together in Christ

- Joe Morgan who was on the ground at Pearl Harbor found freedom from hatred when he met Mitsuo Fuchida.

What a story of the grace of God.

- **The real problem is the universal condition of the human heart.**

The answer is clear: There is no peace on earth because we are not peace-loving people. We are not peace-filled people. No wonder we have problems.

- We must lay the blame where God does: our sinful nature.

“Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? James goes on to say: “You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask” (James 4:1-2).

- The way of peace they have not known (Romans 3:10-17).

“There is no one righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless. There is no one who does good, not even one. Their throats are open graves, their tongues practice deceit. The poison of vipers is on their lips. Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood. Ruin and misery mark their ways. And the way of peace they do not know”.

- The problem is not with Jesus. The problem is with you and me.
- The angels' message is true. There is such a thing as peace on earth and goodwill toward men. It comes when Jesus Christ comes into a life.

## Conclusion

If you will ever open your heart to Jesus Christ completely and without reservation, He can come in and remove the hatred and bitterness. He can redeem the hurts of the past.

“The Lord of peace Himself give you peace always by all means” (2 Thess. 3:16)