

Christmas Eve Service

December 24th, 2020 | mediaatvictory.com

Almost all the Christmas carols we sing have an amazing message or story behind them.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882) was best known for, “Paul Revere’s Ride”, also wrote, “The Bells of Christmas”. He wrote this song he was trying to provide hope in his own heart when there was none. Seven times he quotes what the angels said to the shepherds, “Peace on Earth, Good will toward men”.

He wrote the song during the Civil War, his home caught fire, his wife died in the fire, he was badly burned trying to save her, and his son had been shot in the war. The one stanza revealed the distress Longfellow sensed that day.

And in despair I bowed my head;
"There is no peace on earth," I said;
"For hate is strong,
And mocks the song

This is the same frustration and fear that fills our world today. He knew there is hope in God but that is how he felt at the moment.

“Of peace on earth, good-will to men!” refers to peace between God and man, not peace between men.

Jesus, the Prince of peace

Isaiah 9:6-7 - For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulder and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, the Prince of peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end...

Luke 2:10-14 - And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ, the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace and God’s good will toward men.

- Jesus came to save us from the consequence of our sin.
- Sin cannot come before a righteous God, so He sent Jesus to pay the price for us.
- Jesus is the only way to bridge the gap between God and man.
- Through Jesus, God no longer holds man's sins against them.
- God so loved you, that He did this.

Oh Holy Night says "Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till He appeared and the SOUL FELT IT'S WORTH".

Romans 5:1 - Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.

- Religion tries to earn God.
- Jesus wasn't lost, I was, He found me.
- We decide what we do with Jesus.

II Corinthians 9:15 - Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift, Jesus.

- Jesus is a gift, you can't earn it.

Will this gift remain unopened in your life?