

**PEACE ON EARTH?**  
Pastor Rick Sutherland  
Woodland Church  
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*“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” (Luke 2:8-14, NIV)*

- a. The shepherds were terrified.
- b. Suddenly a great company of heavenly host appeared.
- c. Saying glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men.

1. Peace on earth, good will toward men.

*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.*

*And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6, NIV)*

- a. He will be called wonderful, mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- b. Know Him, know peace\_- without Him no peace

*“Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Romans 5:1, NIV)*

c. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

*“For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.”* (Ephesians 2:14, NIV)

d. For He Himself is our peace.

*“Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”* (Colossians 3:15, NIV)

e. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

2. The good shepherd

*“So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child.”* (Luke 2:16-17, NIV)

a. They found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in the manger

b. What the shepherds seen that night was the good shepherds lying in the manger

*“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me”*  
(John 10:14, NIV)

*“Jesus said I am the good shepherd, I know my sheep, and my sheep know me. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice.”* (John 10:2-4, NIV)

He calls his sheep by name and he loves them, and goes ahead of them, and they know his voice.

## The Five thousand

*“When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.”*  
(Mark 6:34, NIV)

a. He had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd.

*“Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.”* (Luke 15:4-7, NIV)

a. He leave the ninety-nine to go after the lost sheep.

*“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”*  
(John 10:11, NIV)

The good shepherd lays down His life for his sheep.

*“The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.”* (Psalm 23:1, NIV)

