

Shepherds visit Jesus

Why Jesus empathizes with our fallen Nature

Luke 2: 1-2 Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

3 And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.

4-5 Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

6-7 While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Romans 8:3 ...sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh

Philippians 2: 6-7 Although He ~~existed~~ **subsisted** in the form of God, did not regard **His** equality with God ~~a thing to be grasp~~ **as something He had to cling to**, but emptied Himself...

Psalms 103:14 For He Himself knows ~~our frame~~ **how we were shaped**; He ~~is mindful~~ **remembers** that we are but dust.

John 8:28 I do nothing on My own initiative, but I speak these things as the Father taught Me.

Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot ~~sympathize~~ **empathize** with our weaknesses, but One who ~~has been tempted~~ has been **tested** in all things *{i.e., areas}* as we are, yet without sin.

Hebrews 4:16 Therefore let us draw near ~~with confidence~~ **boldly** to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need

Matthew 11: 28-30 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

Take My yoke upon you and learn ~~from~~ **about** Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls, for My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

John 1: 11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.

12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, ~~even~~ **that is**, to those who believe in His name

Luke 2:8 In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night.

9 And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.

10-11 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

13-14 And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace ~~among men with whom He is pleased~~ **to those who have received His favor.**"

15 When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds ~~began~~ **kept** saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

16 So they ~~came in a hurry~~ **searched frantically** and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger.

17 When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child.

18 And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary ~~treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart~~ **kept pondering these things in her heart**

20 The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.