

BIBLE TALK

CAROL

God rest ye merry, gentlemen let nothing you dismay!
For Jesus Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas Day,
to save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!
O tidings of comfort and joy!*

From God our heavenly Father a holy angel came.
The shepherds saw the glory and heard the voice proclaim
that Christ was born in Bethlehem and Jesus is his name.

'Fear not', then said the angel, 'let nothing cause you fright;
to you is born a Saviour in David's town tonight,
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might.'

And when to Bethlehem they came where Christ the infant lay,
they found him in a manger where oxen fed on hay,
and there beside her newborn child his mother knelt to pray:

Now to the Lord sing praises, all people in this place!
With Christian love and fellowship each other now embrace,
and let this Christmas festival all bitterness displace.

PRAYERS

CAROL

Hark! The herald-angels sing 'Glory to the new-born King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!'
Joyful, all you nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, 'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'

Hark! The herald-angels sing, 'Glory to the new-born King!'

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see. Hail, the incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace. Hail, the Sun of Righteousness;
light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild, he lays his glory by. Born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.

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CHRISTMAS DAY 2023



WELCOME

CAROL

O Come All Ye Faithful
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, o come ye, to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the king of angels:

O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

God of God, Light of light,
He who abhors not the virgin's womb;
very God, begotten not created:

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
'Glory to God in the highest!'

Yes Lord, we greet you, Born, died, resurrected!
Jesus, to you be glory given!
Word of the Father now in flesh appearing:



WOULD YOU RATHER?

BIBLE READING

Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

CAROL

Silent Night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round the virgin and her child: holy infant, so gentle and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
glory streams from heaven afar: heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluia,
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.'

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light:
radiant beams your holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord at your birth.

The splendour of the King clothed in majesty;
let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light and darkness tries to hide
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.

*How great is our God! Sing with me how great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!*

And age to age He stands and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The Godhead, three in one; Father, Spirit, Son.
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

Name above all names! Worthy of all praise!
My heart will sing: how great is our God!

BIBLE READING

Luke 2:8-20

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.