



## “THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS”

By Rev. J.K. Golding

Have you seen the exquisite Santa over at the Mall? Are you listening to station XYZ---Oh, the *music* on it! This years' Holiday movie is great! Be *sure you see it!* Hear the laughter and singing everywhere!

In December, where could you go to escape the Christmas excitement? It is seen and heard everywhere! We are all familiar with most of it.

Would you be surprised if I told you *Sights and Sounds* began with the very first Christmas!?! Look at this!.....

“And there were in the country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round

about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, *‘Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be unto 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, good will toward men.’*

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, *‘Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.’* And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had *heard and seen*, as it was told unto them.” Luke 2: 8-20

*God himself made the first Sights and Sounds* of Christmas! He sent the angels with the announcement a Savior is born, a babe lying in manger. He is born in the city of David! Notice,

these shepherds were not educated men by the world's standard, but they knew the Scriptures! They immediately went to Bethlehem to see this thing which the Lord had told them about!

Look at the prophecies that are fulfilled in this short Passage of scripture!

*He is born in Bethlehem.* “But thou Bethlehem Ephratah, though you be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be the ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.” Micah 5:2

*He is born of a virgin.* “Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign. Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel.” (God with us) Isaiah 7:14

*He has come to earth for one reason, to be our Savior! His Name is Jesus.* “And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son, and shall call his name Jesus.” (Savior) Luke 2:31 (*Gabriel's words to Mary at the Annunciation*)

After they saw Mary and Joseph, and the Babe, they left glorifying and praising God for what they had experienced—the Birth of the Savior, the long awaited Messiah- the Anointed One!

I have a question to ask you, are you carrying the real message of Christmas? Does your schedule have the true *Sights and Sounds of Christmas* in it?

I pray each of you will know the true joy of Christmas, having Jesus in your heart and life. Then you will indeed have a blessed Christmas, with His peace now and on into the New year!

Excerpt from “Echoes for today's Listening” by Rev. J.K. Gelding

For your information!!

Are you interested in studying the Bible to prepare for future Ministry, yet have limited funds? There is a new Website from Pentecostal Conservative School of the Bible  
Dr Russell K. Pier: Administrator. Courses are offered in the traditional Pentecostal interpretation. Rev. Golding continues to teach the Bible through this new Media! Visit the website at: [www.pcsblearn.com](http://www.pcsblearn.com)

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## “A MESSAGE OF HOPE”

By Mary Mayko

God gives us the strength we need to endure through our many times of conflicts and personal sufferings. His Word offers us a Message of Hope in a world that daily reports news of death and despair, discouragements and deceptions without offering any solutions for these conditions! These constant reports can have a very distressing effect on us along with our own personal challenges we face each day!

Thank God we can share our burdens as well as our joys with other Believers! We are grateful for His Word that offers us true hope in the midst of all the uncertainties we face on a regular basis! Special times of the year offer us a respite or interval of relief, especially during the Christmas Season when people seem to take on an air of kindness and respect for others. This proves they are capable of portraying a picture of cheer and giving whenever they desire to do so! When people show they care, even in some small way, it gives us a fresh look at the Hope our God has to offer!

A search in the Bible for the word “hope” brings new enlightenment to this four letter word! My renewed discovery of hope as defined by God’s Character is exciting! He cannot lie! How refreshing when so much deception is all around us! He is faithful and trustworthy, while others fail to see the values in such honesty! His fulfilled Promises builds within us, a confident expectation that all He has said will come to pass! The Old Testament tells of a Child that would offer Hope and Salvation to mankind, who would be born in Bethlehem some day! His very Name would be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father and the Prince of Peace! Could there really be any doubt that this Child named Jesus was God in the flesh, Immanuel? Blessed Savior! Luke 2:10-11

When we share our gifts this year, are any of our thoughts really toward the LORD? Do we give to others in a spirit of worship to our King? The kings of the East came to worship this Child who was born a King, bringing their very best gifts to Him! What about us? We may not have gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to offer Him, but do we worship Him by using our gifts in an excellent way? Do we use what He gave us to *advance ourselves or to glorify Him*? Are we as wise as those kings from the East were? Do we offer any Hope to those around us? Do others *see Jesus* in us? If so, we are able to do so!

God’s Message of Hope promises us that one day He will return for us! Gal.5:5 “For we through the Spirit, by faith, are waiting for the hope of righteousness.” As Believers, we have a guaranteed basis for our hope! His Word offers us comfort and a sense of security that is so important in this world of uncertainty!

To me the word *hope is like a diamond with multifacets, sparkling with expectation! Hope gives us strength to endure many trials as we await His return! Col.1:27b “Christ in you, the hope of glory!” Hope in the LORD who is our anchor! Heb.6:19*

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## **“A PROMISE FULFILLED”**

**By Mary Mayko**

**Isa.7:17 KJV “Therefore the LORD Himself shall give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His Name Immanuel.”**

**Luke 2:11-12 KJV “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.”**

Celebrations are the result of a momentous event, such as a birthday, wedding, or some kind of success or victory, etc. When we come together to celebrate the Occasion, we need to stop and reflect on the *reason* for the festive time. Feasts and Memorials were ordained by God so His people could come together and recall the wonderful ways the LORD had dealt with them. For us today, it should be a time when we pause, change our hectic pace and reflect on pleasant memories and/or traditions we have established over the years. This gives us something joyful to look forward to, as well as a time to share our past blessings. And yes! To consider the difficulties we have encountered yet survived them, which in itself is a true blessing!

A Holiday gives us that much needed rest and fills us with hope for the future. It gives our younger Generation an opportunity to share good feelings and knowledge that they are a part of something much larger than just their own circle of friends and interests. It helps keep our families and friends connected with each other. It places our focus on what’s ahead of us, gatherings, pretty packages that promise something special inside, an awesome retelling of how God sent His Promised Son, the Messiah as a baby who would change the world by His Coming! An humble Child, born in humble surroundings, yet His Birth was celebrated by angels as well as common folks, shepherds and Royalty! The Birth of Jesus, a Promise Fulfilled!

Simeon, a servant of God had been promised he would not die until he had seen the Promised Messiah! [Luke 2:25-32] Here is my paraphrased summary of that Passage. “I can die in

peace now, for I have seen the Messiah!” What a joy for a devoted Jewish man of God! Can we say the same thing? That we too, have peace in our own hearts because we have met our Promised Savior!

As we celebrate the Holidays, take time out to pause and reflect on the many promises of God and all the blessings He gives to us day by day! With each gift package we unwrap. May His joy be revealed to you in new and wonderful ways as we grow closer to Him!

As we remember the Past and look forward to the Future, don't let things overwhelm you. Take time to look up some of the Promises of God and know for certain, all He has said will surely come to pass! Celebrate Jesus!

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