

“CAROLS FOR THE KING: HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING”

LUKE 2:8:16

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Hark The Herald Angels Sing, and that's the theme of our message today in our series *Carols For the King* and I'm calling this message, *A Heavenly Invasion* because adoring angels, an army of angels announced the birthday of the King, the Lord Jesus Christ. Begin finding in your Bibles, Luke's gospel and the 2nd chapter and while you're turning let me remind you that one of the hallmarks of the Christian faith is that God has put a song in our hearts. We sing because we have something to sing about and we sing about a Savior who has changed our lives. Once you know Christ you can't help but share it. You can't help but sing of His grace and of His love and of His power in your life. Now no other group can sing like we sing. I mean agnostics can't sing carols at Christmas. Atheists have no hymns of faith to sing. In fact I heard the other day that that atheists were complaining that they didn't have a holiday to celebrate like Christians have at Christmas. So I suggested maybe April 1st would be a good date [congregation laughter] for [more laughter] the Bible says: [Psalm 14:1]

The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."...

[pause for more laughter] And the world religions they, they really don't sing, they may chant a dirge or two, but only people who have been born again from above, the new song in our soul changing our lives, we have something to shout about and something to sing about. That's why Jesus came into the world to put a new song of salvation in our lives. And the night the angels exploded in all of heaven, they echoed the praises of God to a group of shepherds from that day until this day at Christmas, we have been singing carols unto Him. The echo of heaven is still in our hearts today. It's said that praise is the language of men and angels. Praise is the language of heaven and that language communicates the grace of God. These carols also give us great doctrinal and theological truth. So many of us first learn what we believe about the Bible, about God, about who Jesus is. We first learned our faith in the great hymns that we were taught as children and so today we're going to learn once again the timeless truths of Scripture as we look at the great hymn by Charles Wesley, *Hark The Herald Angles Sing*. Now Charles Wesley was a prolific hymn writer and he wrote the words to *Hark The Herald...* in 1737. Now Charles was the son of a woman who bore 18 children and she was a godly woman who prayed for her children every day. In fact the story is told of Susanna Wesley, Charles Wesley's mother that, when she wanted to pray and she prayed for all of her children by name, she wanted to find a prayer closet but in their little house with 18 children, she had so many children she didn't know what to do. In her little house she would just get in a corner and throw her apron over her head [slight congregation laughter] and pray. That was her prayer closet, she was a godly dedicated woman and she poured the Scripture into the lives of all of her children and Charles was the youngest of these 18 children. Charles

along with his brother John were educated at Oxford University and it was at Oxford University that they began what is, what was known as, The Holy Club. Now The Holy Club, was a kind of 18th Century accountability group for men. A..., these men were committed to studying the Scriptures, sharing together in accountability in the Christian faith, growing in discipleship and ultimately sharing their faith with others and this became the precursor for The Methodist Church. John Wesley is considered to be the founder of the Methodist Church and a..., Charles Wesley who wrote 6500 hymns, 6,500 hymns a..., founded, so much of the music that we sing today certainly came out of The Methodist Church in those days. So I think it's somewhat appropriate, you know, I've been saying at the Dallas Christmas Festival with all of these dancers that we got up here, that we've imported a bunch of Methodists in to do our dancing. [pause for congregation laughter] Ha, ha, ha, ha, so in tribute to Charles Wesley and the Methodist Church and John a..., this is the message today. But what...what in actuality Charles wanted to do, he...he developed a passion for praise and he wanted others to sing from their hearts. He talked a lot about heart religion, what we would call living faith and he wanted others to praise God and sing, not halfheartedly, but wholeheartedly and so Charles Wesley wrote these words.

"Beware of singing as if you were half dead."

I've seen singing and heard singing like that, half dead. Sort of like that movie. Sometimes I look out there and I see dead people. A... [pause for congregation laughter]

"Beware of singing as though you were half dead or half asleep, but lift up your voice with strength. Be no more afraid of your voice now, nor more ashamed of it's being heard then when you sung the songs of Satan."

Heh, he said:

"Sing with all of your heart to God, wake up and praise God."

So he gave us these songs and many in the Anglican Church of that day, the Church of England, they did not like Wesley's music, in fact some people called it the Devil's music because, well frankly, for the 18th Century Wesley's music rocked. It was... it was a..., brand new and exciting. But here's what Wesley said about his words and his hymns.

"I design plain truth to plain people. We ought not to discourage believers from rejoicing evermore. Let them rejoice unto God with reverence, always happy in God."

He said:

"Sing lustily with good courage and see that the heart is offered to God continually."

It's very important that when we sing in worship and as we think about these carols, so often we just repeat the words and don't realize and apply the meaning, that we not just say them or sing them or go through the motions in worship, that we are continually offering our hearts and our praise unto God and that we mean it. *Hark The Herald Angles Sing* was Really a..., originally written as a Christmas hymn and it was called *A Hymn For Christmas Day* and it contained 10

stanzas. Now can you imagine Rick Briscoe or Todd Bell stand...a...asking us to stand together and saying all right we're gonna sing all 10 stanzas of this hymn. Well, 10 originally and it was actually not called *Hark The Herald Angels Sing*, because the first line of the hymn as Wesley wrote it, actually read this way:

Hark the sky rings.

Hark the sky rings.

Because Wesley wanted to remind us on the night that Christ was born that the skies were singing, the skies were ringing in the birthday of the King. In fact later on when the words were changed by others to *Hark The Herald Angels Sing*, Wesley was upset, because he said, that's not theologically or biblically correct. The Bible never says in Luke chapter 2 that the angels sang, but rather that they said praising God and glory to God in the highest. So Wesley was upset, but the fact is, the words were changed to *Hark The Herald Angels Sing* and then the tune was applied to the text. The melody, the music, was written by a great composer by the name of Felix Mendelssohn. Now Felix Mendelssohn was born a Jew, but as a young man he converted to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and became a dynamic follower of the Lord. And the tune to *Hark The Herald Angels Sing* was actually composed in honor of the invention of the printing press, sort of a connect that we obviously see as the angels were announcing the birth of Christ and this tune that is now applied to the text, is was in celebration of the invention of the printing press, one of the great inventions, of course, in human history. And it was in honor of Johannes Gutenberg, a..., Mendelssohn's great friend. So now the message, or the music and the melody and the text and the words are married and in...within a decade it became one of the most beloved Christmas carols of all times. So, what I want us to do today is to take a deeper look at what the angels sang and what the angels said and that we will discover once again the heavenly invasion of Jesus Christ.

First of all, I wanna remind you that we see in this hymn text **GOD'S HEAVENLY ANNOUNCEMENT**, God's heavenly announcement. The words of *Hark The Herald...*sing this way:

*Hark the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"*

Now that is an obvious reference to our text in Luke chapter 2. So look in Luke chapter 2, beginning at verse 8 and you will see why Wesley wrote these words in the 1st stanza:

⁸Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. ⁹And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰And then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹For there is born unto you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be the sign unto you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill to men!"

Here is the heavenly announcement. Now angels are created beings, created by God, in eternity past for His purposes, both in heaven and on earth. We meet angels in both the Old Testament and in the New Testament. And, of course, angels often surround important events and episodes in the life of Jesus Himself. When the announcement was made to Mary that she was great with, that she was with child by the Holy Spirit and would bring the Savior into the world, it was an angel who announced the conception of Jesus. When Jesus was tempted for 40 days in the wilderness, it was angels that attended to Him there and ministered to the Lord. It was an angel who waited for those who ran to the tomb that day and found it empty and an angel who announced: [Luke 24:6]

"He is not here, but He is risen!..."

Angels accompanied our Lord to heaven when He ascended. For in Acts chapter 1 in verse 11 the angel of the Lord announced to those disciples:

... "You men of Galilee don't stand gazing up into heaven. This same Jesus which is taken up into heaven from you will come again in the same way that you've seen Him go."

And indeed, when Christ returns, when Jesus comes back for the second time angels will accompany Him, with the voice of the archangel, with the trumpet of God and the glories of God will a..., descend upon the earth once again and of course these angels accompanied the very birth of Jesus. We will...we will stand and sing with the angels throughout all eternity, they will be our friends and our...our company in heaven when we one day stand before the Lord. So angels are very important personalities to those of us who are followers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Angels are often mysterious and invisible, but at times they miraculously make themselves know as on the night that Jesus was born. The fact is, the angels were the announcers. They were the first proclaimers of the good news, the good tidings of great joy and the angels celebrated the Christ, the King who has come. And all of heaven exploded with their glory. A..., I have to think when these angels descended that night and they shouted their praises to God, don't you think that there might have been just a little bit of disappointment when they made this great announcement and it was just to a few farmhands in the field? All of the preparation, all of the plans, this great moment, the greatest moment in history was about to take place and there were probably less than 10 shepherds who heard it. Can you imagine if we were preparing the Dallas Christmas Festival, all the...the choir, all of the songs, all of the singing, all of the preparation, what if we worked...? People asked me, "How long does it take to get the Dallas Christmas Festival ready?" Well, it takes months and months and months. We start back a..., in the summer to get ready. But what if we got it all ready and we had this fantastic story of Jesus to tell and only 5 or 10 people came to hear it? Well, we might be a little disappointed and I've gotta be thinking, you know, these angels are singing their hearts out. I mean they're just praising God, but they're thinking, what a bummer. [pause for congregation laughter] Nobody's here to hear but...but these good old boys out here in the field. What a contrast this was, these...these magnificent, majestic angels. Now people collect a..., collect angels today, people have a fascination with angels, both young and old. You see angels on television a..., made for TV movies and al...a..., just this week in *USA Today* there was an angel on the front cover of the weekend edition and of course we collect these angels, there're sterling silver angels and bronzed angels and porcelain angels and angels embroidered on pillows and...and we put angels on the top of Christmas trees at this season and...and we even fly angels at Christmas pageants. [pause for slight congregation laughter] But these angels were different. In

fact, Wesley called them, herald angels. The Bible calls them a host, a heavenly host. These were not little chubby, chubby cherub angels; I started to say Chubby Checker angels. [pause for congregation laughter] These were not little chubby cherub angels, but in reality a heavenly army adoring God and praising the birth of the King. Don't think so much of these angels as being a heavenly choir wrapped in robes, but picture them in military fatigues, the army of God, the host of heaven, shouting the victory of Jesus Christ. And so Wesley said:

Hark the herald angles sing...

Now hark is not a word we use much today. I dare you to go to your office this week, walk in the door and say, "Hark!" [pause for congregation laughter] You say that guys been at the Christmas pageant too long. [pause for more laughter] But what you might say to employees, especially if you really wanted to get with them, you know what I mean, if you really wanted to, you know, maybe say something to them that was important, what you might say is, "Now listen up! Pay attention!" That's what the word hark means, it means pay attention because you are about to hear something very, very important.

I think about that little boy, he was to play the angel in the Christmas pageant at his church and he was assigned the text a..., to say:

"I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people..."

and so on and he had memorized his text, but he got out there in his little angel suit and he forgot what he was supposed to say. So he made it up. He just said, "Hey, everybody, I got great news for you." [congregation laughter] Well, that is in fact, in effect what the angels were saying that night. Hey, everybody, I've got wonderful news, life changing good news, the Savior is born. But it was a contrast because these majestic and militaristic angels were bringing this message to these shepherds, smelly, stinkin shepherds, farmhands. In fact, the shepherds in that day were considering the off scouring of their society, they were outcasts, a..., they were considered ceremonially unclean and could not go to the temple. They were living out in the fields, that's why I said they were smelly. I mean they are livin out there in the field abiding and watching over their sheep, their flocks, by night. And so here you've got these majestic and powerful and beautiful a..., hosts from heaven and here are these shepherds and the message was delivered, the message was the birth of the Son. Now I gotta tell you when my sons and my daughter were born a..., I wanted the whole world to know and...and so I did some things so that people would hear the announcement. I mean, when you're a father and you have a son that is born I mean you wanna do something so everybody knows it. Well, if I had been arranging this announcement of the birth of Jesus I might a done it a little differently, yeah I might a put a little more pizzazz in this thing. I mean, I would have done something like thunder and lightning over Bethlehem, shock and awe over Jerusalem. There would be meteoric showers and laser lights, [congregation laughter] and earth shaking, earth shattering news, but God's ways are not my ways and that's a good thing. God did it differently. He did it in a little place called Bethlehem the least of the towns of Judea. And he shared the announcement with the least of the least of that city, people living outside the city, shepherds, because you see Jesus was not announced to Roman Caesars or kings or to religious leaders in Jerusalem, the announcement came to these outcasts, because Jesus came for people like shepherds, simple people, the poor as well as the rich, the irreligious as well as the

religious. Jesus came for people that were hurting and broken and He spent His life in His ministry. So God made the announcement in an appropriate way and besides that all this shock and awe that could have taken place, you know, God can still do that. God can send angels right now to fill this room. God...you know if...if God wanted you to believe, all God would have to do is take the roof off of this building and look down and say, "I'm here!" and we would all believe. But rather than sending angels, now He sends you and me doesn't He? To go tell the wonderful story of Jesus, that heavenly announcement is to be delivered now by those who know Jesus Christ because we can share something that angels cannot share. We can share that we have been saved by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. We have been redeemed by our Savior who was born and went to the cross and died in order that our sins could be forgiven and rose again on the third day. That is the heavenly announcement.

The 2nd stanza has to do with **GOD'S HUMAN APPEARANCE**, God's human appearance. Here's what Wesley wrote:

*Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail the 'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.*

Now as I stated earlier, one of the great values of studying the hymns is that we learn great doctrinal and theological truths from these hymns. That's why it's important that we continue to sing as we do each week a..., classic hymns of faith. Because I'm concerned about a generation that is not laying spiritual foundations and some people have the idea, well I just wanna experience Jesus and they get caught up in the emotion of Jesus but they do not have solid structure or spiritual foundations in their lives and I'm afraid if...if people do not build upon the great doctrines and truth of God's Word that when any wind of doctrine, is the way the Bible puts it, any wind of doctrine that comes along and blows will blow you away if you do...are not firmly grounded upon biblical truth and so much of biblical truth we can learn in these great hymns. In fact if you wanna add to a..., the joy and the strength of your devotional life, in addition to the Scripture from time to time, add in some of the great hymns. For years I have been reading and looking at the hymns as a part of my devotional life. I began as a little boy learning the hymns and I learned so much of what I first began to know about Jesus and the Word of God through these hymns. I remember as a young man a..., I was given a tract, The 4 Spiritual Laws, from Campus Crusade For Christ, and the back of that tract you will recall there was a...there was the illustration of the train, the locomotive and then a coal car and then the caboose and this was an illustration to describe how we come to faith in Christ. The locomotive is the facts; that pulls everything, that's the force, the facts. What you have to know is the facts of the gospel. We don't believe just anything or something about God, there's certain facts that we learn from the Word of God. Our Christian faith is reasonable. You don't have to park you brain in the a..., parking lot when you come into church. We ought to have a reason for the hope that it...is within us and so many people don't know what they believe or why they believe it because they've never learned the facts of the gospel. It's the facts that Christ died for our sins and rose again on the third day. That is the gospel, the facts of the truth of the gospel. Facts, that's the power of everything and faith follows facts; that's the coal car. Faith follows facts; we believe and we believe not just by reason, but we believe beyond reason based upon the facts of the gospel. And so then feelings follow faith. Now, you

know, the fact is a..., a train can run with or without a caboose and you can have faith and facts with or without feelings. Feelings are not the issue. It's wonderful to have feelings. Here's how a..., you might put it. We have faith...fa...a...facts in which we understand the message; then we have faith in order to trust and to commit to that message and then feelings to enjoy the truth and the life of that message. So I'm saying that it's important that we build our lives, not upon froth or cotton candy, but rather upon the solid, basic, fundamental truths of Scripture. Wesley knew that and as a young man he learned these truths and so he put them into his hymns and we see them here. For example, we see in the 2nd stanza the **DEITY OF JESUS**, for he calls Him the everlasting Lord. In fact there are a number of great titles, appellatives that describe the...the Savior. He's called the Christ. He's called the everlasting Lord. He's called the offspring of the Virgin's bir...a...womb. He is a..., incarnate Deity. He is Jesus. He is Emmanuel and when you read this hymn a..., you see many wonderful, biblical titles of Jesus. And here he calls Him the everlasting Lord. He is wonderful Counselor, mighty God, the everlasting Father. This is but an echo of the Scripture. Listen, Jesus did not begin at Bethlehem. He began before the beginning. Because He is eternal God and Father. He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end and the essence of the Christian faith is that Jesus was not just a good man, but that He is God, the God Man. He came and therefore He is our Emmanuel, which means God with us. The world waited a long time for the coming of Christ and the coming of the Messiah and so the hymn says that He came:

Late in time behold He came,

The world waited, but in the fullness of time God sent forth His Son born of a woman and history and destiny converged in the person of Christ. God became a man in Christ. That's His Deity, His incarnate Deity. Let me remind you that Jesus is not God number two. He is not the junior executive partner of God, He is God! Jesus is God! He is the God Man. He is the One and only Savior. That's why no one compares to Jesus. No man compares to Jesus, not Moses, not Mohammed, not Buddha, not Confucius, not anyone compares to Jesus. He is not Jesus the greatest, He is Jesus the One and Only Savior and God. And that's what the Bible teaches and that's what this song says:

...the everlasting Lord.

Listen to John 1:14:

The Word became flesh and blood and dwelt among us,...

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,...

Eugene Peterson in The Message put it this way, John 1:14:

The Word became flesh and blood and moved into our neighborhood.

He did, He...He walked into our world. He planted His feet on terra firma. God became in Christ, Emmanuel, He is with us. He said I and the Father are One. This Bible and this song as well, speak of the Deity of Jesus, but not only the Deity of Jesus but, the **PURITY OF JESUS** for Wesley said that He is the:

Offspring of the Virgin's womb.

The offspring of the Virgin's womb.

This is a testimony to the words of Isaiah 7:14 where the prophet spoke of the One, the Savior who came, for the virgin...:

...the Lord Himself will give you a sign:...the virgin will be with child and will give birth to a Son and will call Him Immanuel.

Later in Luke chapter 1, Dr. Luke who knew a little bit about birth and conception as a medical doctor. Dr. Luke, the author a..., of this gospel of Christmas said, confirming the words of the prophet that Jesus was born of a virgin. You say, now what difference does that make? Now remember, we're talking about great biblical, theological truth. There's some people wanna just say, especially the liberal side of a..., the culture, just wanna say, well, He wasn't necessarily bir...born of a virgin, that's impossible and some are skeptics and some have scoffed, some have denied, some have distorted this message of the virgin birth. Some have said, well it really doesn't make any difference. But let me tell you what difference it makes. It makes the difference between heaven and hell. It makes the difference between your salvation and not having your salvation. It's the difference between life and death and here's why. If Jesus was born of man, rather than being born, the Holy Child of God, the Virgin born Son of God then human blood would have been coursing through His veins. Human blood is tainted. Human nature is distorted by sin and had Jesus been born in a natural way then He would have inherited the sinfulness of man and could not have been the pure and perfect sacrifice that we needed. But Jesus was not born naturally, He was born supernaturally, born of a virgin, in order to be our Savior and we can therefore, because He is the pure and spotless Lamb of God be forgiven and changed by the power of Jesus Christ.

And then this text speaks of the **HUMANITY OF JESUS**. The 2nd stanza says:

Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Jesus descended and laid aside His dignity, never laying aside His Deity. He is always God. He did not lay aside His Deity, but He did lay aside, as Man, His dignity. He laid aside some of the prerogatives and privileges of the Godhead, when He became a Man and He walked among us and though He was a Man He never sinned, but He was a Man. He was transparent and tender with us. Therefore in Hebrews 4 and verse 15 we're told that:

...He is a High Priest that is touched with the feelings of our infirmities.

He knows, He understands, He said I've been there and done that. I've walked with you. He is Man and it is a heresy to say that Jesus is less than a..., God it is also a heresy to say Jesus is less than man, because He is both Man and God, 100% Man and 100% God, just as much God as if He were not Man at all and just as much Man as if He were not God at all. And it is His humanity that made the connection and so with...with humanity and mankind and so Wesley put it this way:

God and sinners reconciled!

Now that is the message and the meaning of the coming of the King into the world.

God and sinners reconciled!

Because there was a brokenness in the relationship between man and God. We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God and every one of us have broken God's commandments and so this estrangement, this brokenness, there is a wall because of our sin that separates us from God and we can't get to God, we can't climb over that wall. And so God invaded time and history, He walked into our world and He came to us and He tore down the wall in the name of Jesus Christ. God the Father said to Jesus the Son, go My Son and by Your cross tear down that wall.

The wall at Berlin that separated East Germany and West Germany and separated communism from democracy, that separated millions of people. I was watching a, a 3 hour special on the history channel the other day of a..., President John F. Kennedy on the 40th Anniversary of his death here in Dallas and it was a..., a reminder as...as that Berlin Wall went up in the days of the Kennedy presidency and what a breaking this was between East and West and what a terrible reminder it is of the separation of people and yet when President Ronald Regan a..., helped us, along with President Bush to win the cold war, it was Ronald Regan who stood in the face of Gorbachev the Russian leader and said, "Mr. Gorbachev tear down this wall." And the wall came down; once again people were connected. East and West Germany was no more. God said tear the wall down between Me and the people that I love and Jesus, God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself. So our wonderful hymn writer Wesley nailed it when he said;

God and sinners reconciled!

Well, in the final stanzas of Wesley's great hymn *Hark The Herald Angels Sing* he give us **GOD'S HOLY AMBITION**. God's heavenly announcement, God's human appearance and God's holy ambition; listen to these words.

*Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.*

Wesley said Jesus is the **LIGHT** of the world and that's exactly what Jesus said of Himself. [John 9:5]

"...I am the light of the world."

He came to enlighten us to the truth of God and we can know the light of Christ, the light of His love and of His grace and of His power.

[Psalm 119:105]

Thy word, oh Lord, is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

You don't have to commit intellectual suicide to become a Christian. The fact is, He enlightens

your mind as well as your heart and you know things that the world could never understand when you know Jesus. He is light. But not only is He light but He says a..., and by the way Isaiah 9 and verse 2 says:

The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light;...

That's the prophecy and that's the truth of Christ and He's like the Sun of righteousness rising with healing in His wings. Every day we get up to meet the sun, just like clockwork, the sun is always on schedule. Well, Jesus is the Sun of righteousness, Wesley said, and that is a quote directly from the Scripture and shining every brighter unto the perfect day when He comes again and everything is enlightened. The fact is that He is alive forevermore and His resurrection proves His righteousness. Jesus not...a..., Wesley also wrote that not only is He light, but He is life.

He is light, he said, and He is **LIFE**. And Jesus said that about Himself.

[John 10:10]

"...I have come that you might have life and have it more abundantly."

So this tells us in the last stanza that Jesus brings healing to all who are hurting and there's so many hurting people, people who have been broken and beaten down by sin; people who are wounded along the roadsides of life. Jesus came to help and to heal hurting people and if you are hurting, there's a hole in your heart, you have a need for Jesus Christ, He came for you, to fill the void, the vacancy of your life and to heal every hurt. And not only that, there's the promise of hope for tomorrow because He has risen and He is alive. And so Wesley concludes the great hymn by saying:

*Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.*

In other words Jesus was born so that we can be born again. He came to earth so that we can go to heaven. That's why He came, so that we can escape the power of sin and death and that we can be elevated in life and elevated all the way into eternity.

Born to raise the sons of earth,

You don't have to live a low life, you can live the high life in Jesus Christ. He came to give you that life and that...that light and finally that **LOVE**. The fi...final verse invites Jesus to:

*...Fix in us Thy humble home:...
...restate us in Thy love,...*

Reinstate us in Thy love,

Come and make Your home in our humble hearts we say, reinstate us in Your love, oh God. That's what Jesus did. He is light. He is life and He is love and so much more. He said: [Revelation 3:20]

"I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in."

Christ always comes in to humble and honest hearts and the King is knocking at your hearts door today. You can be reinstated in the love of God. Some for the first time to be placed in the love of God by receiving Jesus as your Lord and Savior. Some coming back to Christ at this Christmas season. What a wonderful time to renew your faith and to get stated again in the Christian life and frankly some of you need to return in Christ in repentance and faith and say, I've been away from God and my life has not been what it needs to be as a Christian but I, I wanna sell out to Christ wall to wall and Lord, like Wesley said it, reinstate me in Your love. Welcome Him into your world into your heart, into your humble home by inviting Him in to be your Savior and your Lord today. You will sing something that even the angels can't sing, it's the song of salvation, it's the wonderful story of Jesus and not only do the angels sing it but the saints of God will sing it forever and ever and ever around the throne of our glorious King. Amen? [Congregation says Amen!]
Amen!