

'T WAS THE EVE
BEFORE CHRISTMAS
- Selected Texts

What does God's Word tell us people were doing on the eve before Christmas?

I. THE MAGI ARE INTRIGUED - Matthew 2:1-2

- A. THE STAR INTERESTS THEM
- B. A KING MAKES THEM CURIOUS
- C. THE EVENTS MAKE THEM TRAVEL

II. CAESAR AUGUSTUS IS DELIGHTED - Luke 2:1-2

- A. A WORLDWIDE CENSUS IS NEARLY COMPLETE
- B. PROJECTS WOULD SOON BE FUNDED

III. AN INNKEEPER IS CONFLICTED - Luke 2:7

- A. EXCITED ABOUT FULL OCCUPANCY
- B. BUT CONCERNED ABOUT CONDITIONS

IV. SHEPHERDS ARE WORKING - Luke 2:8

- A. TAKING THE NIGHT SHIFT
- B. WATCHING SACRIFIAL LAMBS

V. ANGELS ARE PREPARING - Luke 2:13-14

- A. UNDERSTANDING GOD'S INTENTION - See Hebrews 1:6
- B. REHEARSING THEIR PRAISE

VI. **SIMEON IS EXPECTANT** - Luke 2:25-26

A. HIS ANTISCIPATION (25)

B. HIS REVELATION (26)

VII. **A GRACE EXPLOSION IS SIMMERING** - Galatians 4:4-7

A. THE TIMING: The fullness of time (4a)

B. THE TRIP: God sent forth His Son (4b)

1. Sent from heaven: Christ's deity
2. Born of a women: Christ's humanity
3. Born under the law: Christ religiously

C. THE TERMS (5-7)

1. To redeem us (5a) > See Romans 5:8-9
2. To adopt us (5b-7)

D. THE TERMINOLOGY - Luke 2:9

1. The glory of God shone around them!
2. An explosion of God's grace!

CONCLUSION:

What are you doing this Christmas Eve?

1. Are you intrigued about cosmic signs?
2. Are you delighted about extra money?
3. Are you conflicted about business success?
4. Are you working a disgusting job?
5. Are you preparing to praise the Savior?
6. Are you expectant regarding God's deliverer?

Have you experienced God's grace explosion?

"For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men!" - Titus 2:11

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