



WORDS WE Barely Believe

LUKE 2:13-14

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 This message is based **Luke 2:13-14** and you can find it in your Pew Bible in the New Testament on page 45.



And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.

- Luke 2:13-14, NASB



1. The Mystery in the Angels’ Song

Luke 2:13-14, KJV 1900 - ¹³ *And 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, Good will toward men.*

“Peace on Earth” ... Where is that?

“Good will toward men” ... I don’t see that.

Christmas, Christmas, Christmas...oh, the lies you *believe*. If you ponder the words of *your Jesus* (cf., Luke 2:13-14) in the light of what is actually happening all around you, you’ll understand why *I don’t believe*... They appear to be a classic example of enthusiastic overstatement. It’s a typical salesman’s mistake. You overpromise and underdeliver. It happens all the time. He’ll bring peace on earth? When? You’ve been waiting for 2,000 years. He’ll bring goodwill toward men? All gibberish. - Woody Allen (director, actor and devout atheist)

2. The Multitude in the Angels’ Song

A. The Suddenness of the multitude

Luke 2:13, NASB95 - ¹³ *And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying...*

B. The Site of the multitude

Luke 2:13, NASB95 - ¹³ *And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying...*

C. The Size of the multitude

Luke 2:13, NASB95 - ¹³ *And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying...*

3. The Message in the Angels’ song

A. The Peace for Men

Luke 2:14, NASB95 - ¹⁴ *“Glory [i.e. allegiance and admiration] to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”*

Luke 2:14, NLT - ¹⁴ *“Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.”*

Luke 2:14, NCV - ¹⁴ *“Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace among the people who please God.”*

B. The Praise to God

Luke 2:14, NASB, ESV, KJV, NIV, etc. - ¹⁴ *“Glory to God in the highest...”*

Luke 2:14, PME – *May there be glory to God in Heaven so there will be peace for men on Earth.*

There will never be peace in your heart until you have made your heart at peace with God.

If there is no peace on earth today...the problem is not with Jesus. The problem is with us. We are the reason there is no peace on earth. The ultimate problem is the universal condition of the human heart... When His promises have been followed, they have been completely fulfilled. When His principles have been put into practice, there truly has been peace on earth... Again, the problem is *not* with Jesus. The problem is with you and me. God’s plan is to bring peace on earth by moving from heart to heart to heart.... God’s plan is offer peace to those who offer Him Glory.

- Dr. Ray Pritchard