

700 BC

God delivers His people from the trauma of sin

- The Promise
- Is 51:11 So the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
 And come to Zion with singing,
 With everlasting joy on their heads.
 They shall obtain joy and gladness;
 Sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

 How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" ⁸ Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. ⁹ Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰ The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

God brings back His people from captivity: Watchmen responded with joy

- A "type" of what is to come
- The people sinned
- God brought wrath in the form of the Assyrians
- God did a surprising, unthinkable thing
- God delivered his people
- They got to go back to their "life" again
- Their lives were "resurrected"
- God overcame the evil opponent
- God proved Himself King over all powerful kings
- As the king comes in victorious fashion, the watching people shout for joy!

Light came into the world; Watchmen responded with joy

• Lk 2:6 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 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.

- ¹¹ For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
- ¹² And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."
- 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, goodwill toward men!"

Light came into the world; Watchmen responded with joy

- The people sinned
- wrath through the Assyrians
- God surprises
- God delivered his people
- back to their "life" again
- Their lives were "resurrected"
- God overcame evil opponent
- God proved Himself King
- watching people shout for joy!

- The people were in darkness
- God oppressed thru Romans
- God sent His Son as a baby
- God forgave sin and restores
- God brought light into world
- God brings us into the light
- God overcame darkness
- God proves Himself King of all kings
- Those who witnessed the birth shouted for joy

The sin of humankind is forgiven: Watchmen responded with joy

Mt 28:1 Now after the Sabbath, as the first *day* of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb...The tomb is open...⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; for He is risen, as He said

- ⁸ So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.
- ⁹ And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him.

The sin of humankind is forgiven: Watchmen responded with joy

- The people sinned
- wrath through the Assyrians
- God surprises
- God delivered his people
- back to their "life" again
- Their lives were "resurrected"
- God overcame evil opponent
- God proved Himself King
- watching people shout for joy!

- All people sinned
- God poured wrath on Jesus
- God raised Jesus from death
- God forgave sin and restores
- God brought resurrection
- God brings us resurrection
- God overcame death
- God proves Himself King of all kings
- Those who witnessed the resurrection shouted for joy

How are YOU a watchman to the work of God? Will you respond with joy?

- The people sinned
- wrath through the Assyrians
- God surprises
- God delivered his people
- back to their "life" again
- Their lives were "resurrected"
- God overcame evil opponent
- God proved Himself King
- watching people shout for joy!

- You experience sin's grip
- something sucks life out of you
- Surprised by God's solution
- God fixes the situation
- God restores light and life
- God's light comes to you
- God beat the evil one
- GOD REIGNS
- You see it,
- You gasp in disbelief
- You beam with joy
- You infect others

So What?

- LOOK FOR IT!
- GOD IS A REDEEMER
- LET GOD REDEEM YOUR SITUATION
 - Be astounded
 - Let the light shine
 - Bask in the forgiveness of Jesus
 - Bubble over with joy