Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

THE NORTON TELEGRAM

"The Signifiance of Nazareth"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry L. Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

1:26) Many Christian cliff. (Luke 4:16-22) historians tell us that Joseph and Mary (Luke 2:39) and Nazareth was where the angel announced to the virgin the birth of the Messiah. (Luke 1:26-28) Nazareth is where Jesus grew to manhood (Luke 4:16) and where He began His public ministry in the synagogue. (Matthew 13:54) Unfortunately, Nazareth around the time of the birth of Christ had established a rather poor reputation in morals and religion. Nazareth and the people living in her were despised by Romans and Jews and those living in her were considered a conquered people. Evidence of the citizen's spiritual condition in Nazareth is found in their treatment of Christ during His ministry. When He told

them things they could

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of Christ, Nazareth had Nazareth in Jesus' time sage as well as to a people with God. (Luke 1:30) become an unimportant represented no reputation searching for God. town. It was the home of for religion. Jesus, having

Gabriel to Nazareth, a Himout of town, they even reth shows us symbolically the Holy Spirit place town in Galilee." (Luke tried to throw Him off the that God is just as able and this truth deep within willing to send His mes- your heart. Gabriel's Symbolically, the sig-sage to a people that are not message informed Mary by the time of the birth nificance to all this is that willing to receive the mes- that she had found favor

"God sent the angel not tolerate they drove His connections to Naza- strength of God." Let Even though you live

Gabriel can mean "the in a world that has no reputation for the things of God and no desire to worship Christ in spirit and truth, the Lord can get His message to you anytime and strengthen you to accomplish your part of the Great Commission this Christmas season. No matter where you live and no matter what circumstance you find yourself in, the Lord can reach into your life and make you a valuable part of the building of the kingdom of God.

> If you find yourself in Nazareth, in poor reputation in morals and dead religion, then let the Holy Spirit open your heart to the Christ of Christmas, be strengthened and enjoy the favor of God in your life. Let Christ be Significant In Your Life!

Clearing the Clutter



the resolutions. One might be to clear away the clutter - and that includes deciding what to do with it. Material things aside, you may be feeling the same disorder in your life. Today's world is a barrage of input that seems to clutter our very souls. How will you decide what is worth retaining? What is most important to know in order to live a useful,

peaceful, and joyous life? God's Word should be of utmost consideration when we establish priorities. When we follow His advice, everything else falls into place. We know what is important and what is not. The result is a sense of peace and joy, even amid the confusion of life. Won't you begin this year with worship in God's House? It

is the best resolution of them all.

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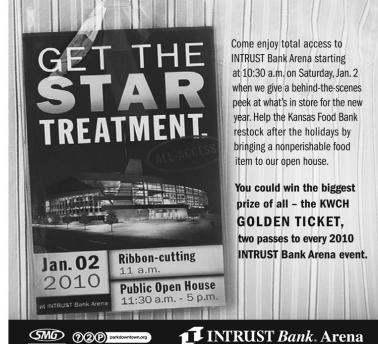
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