

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

"The Significance of Nazareth"

By Preacher/Teacher Terry L. Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

"God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee." (Luke 1:26) Many Christian historians tell us that by the time of the birth of Christ, Nazareth had become an unimportant town. It was the home of 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

not tolerate they drove Him out of town, they even tried to throw Him off the cliff. (Luke 4:16-22)

Symbolically, the significance to all this is that Nazareth in Jesus' time represented no reputation for religion. Jesus, having

His connections to Nazareth shows us symbolically that God is just as able and willing to send His message to a people that are not willing to receive the message as well as to a people searching for God. Gabriel can mean "the

strength of God." Let the Holy Spirit place this truth deep within your heart. Gabriel's message informed Mary that she had found favor with God. (Luke 1:30)

Even though you live 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 ringing in of a brand new year is at hand, and with it 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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| Sunday John 1.19-51 | Monday John 5.1-30 | Tuesday Hebrews 1.1-14 | Wednesday Hebrews 2.1-18 | Thursday Hebrews 3.1-19 | Friday Colossians 1.1-23 | Saturday Colossians 1.24-2.5 |
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Scriptures Selected by The American Bible Society
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You could win the biggest prize of all - the KWCH GOLDEN TICKET, two passes to every 2010 INTRUST Bank Arena event.

Jan. 02 2010

Ribbon-cutting 11 a.m.

Public Open House 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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JAN. 6TH - 10TH

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| Wednesday January 6 | 4pm-9pm |
| Thursday January 7 | 4pm-9pm |
| Friday January 8 | 12-9pm |
| Saturday January 9 | 10am-9pm |
| Sunday January 10 | 12-6pm |

Kansas Coliseum

2 FREE ADMISSIONS WITH THIS AD!