

Christian MONTHLY

for Children

DEDICATED TO THE PROCLAMATION
OF THE WORD OF GOD



Psalm 119:105
The word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.

Winter 2016

Glory TO God IN THE HIGHEST!

Luke 2:8-20

On the hills outside Bethlehem a group of shepherds camped as they watched over their flock in the field. There were dangers in the night; a wild animal or a thief could steal a valuable lamb or sheep. The night shift may have been long and cold and boring, but the shepherds took their turns guarding the flock.

Tonight was no ordinary night, though! Jesus—the Savior of the world—had been born in Bethlehem and the shepherds were to receive the good news from a heavenly messenger.

Suddenly, out of the darkness, the night sky was pierced by a brilliant light! The angel of the Lord appeared, and the glory of the Lord shone brightly around the shepherds, and they were terrified.

The angel said to them, “Fear not! Behold, I bring you good news of great joy, which shall be to all people. Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. This shall be the sign for you: you will find the Baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”

Immediately, a great number of the heavenly host surrounded the angel. They praised God, saying:

***Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace,
good will toward men.***

Luke 2:14

As the angels finished the glorious song of praise, they disappeared back into the heavens. The shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem right now! Let’s see this thing that has happened, that the Lord has made known to us. They hurried to Bethlehem and found Mary, and Joseph, and Baby Jesus lying in a manger.

When the shepherds had seen Jesus, they told everyone what the angel had said about the Child. Everyone who heard the good news wondered about what the shepherds had said. But Mary remembered all these things and thought about them in her heart.

The shepherds returned to their flock, praising God and giving Him glory for everything they had heard and seen. Everything had happened just as the angel had said to them.



The Shepherds and the Angel by Carl Heinrich Bloch
Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Toddlers



Little Lambs

A lamb is a baby sheep. A lamb's mama feeds it milk. When a lamb is born, it must stay close to mama where it is warm and safe. In the spring, lambs like to play in the green grass.

Shepherds take care of their lambs. They help them and give the lambs what they need. Shepherds call their lambs by name.

Jesus is the Good Shepherd and His little lambs are very glad to be His. Jesus takes care of His lambs and gives them what they need. Jesus loves His lambs and calls them by name.

Here is a poem about being Jesus' lamb:

I am Jesus' little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need, and well provides me,
Loves me every day the same,
Even calls me by my name.

Henrietta L. von Hayn

Tykes

Ages Seven-Ten

Angels and a flaming sword guarded the path to the tree of life in the Garden of Eden. Jacob wrestled with an angel all night, and he saw a ladder from earth to heaven with angels climbing up and down it. An angel shut the lions' mouths when Daniel was in the den of lions. An angel appeared to Gideon and lit a fire with his staff.

Angels are in many other Bible stories, too. What is an angel?

Angels—Messengers of God

The word *angel* means *messenger*. Angels were created by God, and they deliver messages to humans from God Himself. They also do other tasks on earth that God gives to them, like protecting, serving, and leading. In heaven, angels are always praising God, and the angels in heaven rejoice when one sinner on earth repents.

Seeing an angel from heaven might be scary. Many people in the Bible were frightened when an angel appeared, but usually the first thing an angel would say to them was, *Fear not*. "Don't be afraid!" The message of an angel is the Word of God to us. We should never fear hearing God's Word, but gladly hear and learn it.

Tots

Four-Six Years

When you were a baby, you may have had a cradle or crib with snuggly blankets and a stuffed animal. Now that you're older, you might have a bed with a fluffy pillow and warm blankets (and maybe your favorite stuffed animal still sleeps with you!)

But where did Baby Jesus sleep when He was first born?

A Manger Bed

Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem, the city of David, because Joseph was from the family of King David. Mary was going to have Baby Jesus soon. Many people were visiting Bethlehem to be counted and taxed, and all the places to stay were full. There was no room in the inn (a kind of hotel) for Joseph and Mary.



They found shelter in a place where animals were kept. The Bible doesn't say if it was a barn or stable or cave, but it must have been a place where large animals like cows and donkeys and oxen were fed. Mary had her firstborn Son there! She wrapped Him in strips of cloth and laid Him in the manger (feeding box) for His cradle. The manger would probably have been made of stone or wood. There likely was hay in it for the animals to eat, and maybe on the floor, too. Jesus, the King of the world, didn't have a soft and cuddly bed. The Bible says:

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:7



Angel Puts Fire on the Altar of Gideon James Tissot

When the Apostle John was given a vision of heaven he saw the Ever-Living One seated on the throne. In His right hand was a scroll book with writing inside and on the back side, but it was sealed with seven seals. A mighty angel called loudly, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and break the seals?" But no man in heaven or on earth, or under the earth, was able to open the scroll.

Who Is Worthy?

John cried very much because no man was found worthy to open and read the book, or to look inside it. One of the elders said to John, "Don't cry! Look! The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered. He can open the scroll and break the seven seals."

John looked, and there, between the throne and the four living creatures and the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain. The Lamb took the scroll from the right hand of the One seated on the throne. Immediately, the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each with a harp and golden vials full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. Then they sang a new song, "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open the seals, for You were slain, and You have redeemed us to God with Your blood, from every family and language and people and nation. You have made us kings and priests of our God, and we will reign on the earth."

John looked again, and he heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders, the voice of angels, more than he could count, numbering ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands! They were saying with a loud voice:

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

Revelation 5:12

No man is worthy to open the scroll that is in the right hand of God Almighty. Only Jesus, the Lamb of God slain from the foundation of the world, is worthy to open the scroll book. And He is worthy to receive glory.

Tweens

Eleven-Twelve Years



The Bible says a lot about the glory of God, and giving glory to God. But what is glory, really?

The Hebrew word that is translated "glory" in the Old Testament literally means *weight* or *heaviness*. It conveys *importance, honor, majesty*. The glory of God is His importance, honor, and majesty. God's glory is all of His holiness, righteousness, love, wisdom, grace, justice... every attribute of God is encompassed in His glory. (BTW: If you're looking for a wonderful study, look up the attributes of God! He. Is. Amazing.)

The Glory of God

The glory of God is completely separate from humans, and His glory doesn't depend on any work of ours. We can't make Him more glorious, and we can't make Him less glorious. God's glory is eternal and unchanging, just like God Himself is eternal and unchanging. His glory is everywhere, all the time, just like God Himself is everywhere, all the time. So then, if we can't affect His glory, how do we give glory *to* God? What does it mean to *glorify* God?

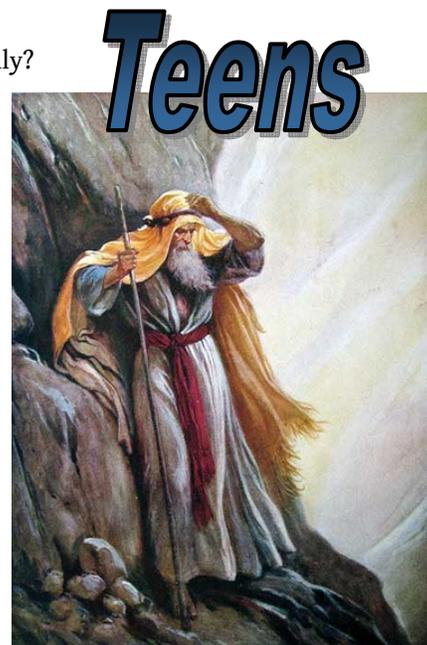
We glorify God by recognizing His glory and acknowledging it. We confirm His *weight* and *heaviness* in the sense that we confess His importance, His honor and His majesty. We testify to His holiness, righteousness, love, wisdom, grace, justice, etc. (Remember to study the attributes of God. You won't be sorry.)

The glory of God cannot be fully seen by humans, because our human bodies and minds could never survive that experience. The LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to a friend, but still Moses couldn't see all of His glory (Exodus 33). Moses begged God to show him His glory, but God said no human can see His face and live. So God hid Moses in a cleft of the rock and covered Moses with His hand as He passed by. After God had passed, He took away His hand, and Moses saw His back.

Recognizing God's glory leads to praise and thankfulness.

I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore. Psalm 86:12

Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name. 1 Chronicles 29:13



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

The prophet Isaiah saw the glory of the Lord, and it brought him to repentance. He tells about it in chapter six of his prophecy.

In the year that King Uzziah died, Isaiah saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and lifted up. The train of His robe filled the temple. Seraphim (angels) with six wings stood above Him. With two wings, each seraph covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. The seraphim called to one another, saying:

Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Isaiah 6:3

The doorposts of the temple shook when the seraphim spoke, and the temple was filled with smoke. Isaiah cried, “Woe is me! For I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell among people of unclean lips, for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

A seraph flew to Isaiah. With tongs, he carried a live coal from the altar. He touched Isaiah’s mouth with the coal and said, “Look! this has touched your lips. Your iniquity is taken away, and your sin is gone.”

This must have been terrifying. The little bottom part of God’s robe filled the WHOLE TEMPLE! And when the seraphim declared the holiness and glory of the LORD of hosts, an earthquake SHOOK the temple doorposts and the temple was FILLED with smoke. Isaiah’s response was one of repentance; he was “undone.” He meant that he was ruined, destroyed, doomed, lost. But the seraphim touched Isaiah’s mouth with a burning coal from the altar. He said that Isaiah was forgiven.

Our holy, holy, holy LORD of hosts is a merciful God. He sent His Son to take away our iniquity and purge our sin.



Isaiah's Vision by Frank Marsden Lea

The Apostle John also saw a glorious vision of the throne room of heaven. He explains in the Revelation, chapter four.

John saw the Ever-Living One seated on a throne, radiant and shining like a jewel, with a sealed scroll* in His right hand. A rainbow shone around the throne, and lightning flashed and thunder rolled. Seven lamps burned, which are the seven Spirits of God. Twenty-four elders dressed in white were seated around the throne, with golden crowns on their heads. Before the throne, a crystal sea shone like glass. Four living creatures with six wings and many eyes, never rested and continuously called:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Revelation 4:8



When the living creatures gave glory, honor, and thanks to the One who sits on the throne, the twenty-four elders fell down before the One who has existed forever. They threw their crowns before the throne, saying:

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelation 4:11

The glory of the Lord is so incredible that John had a hard time describing it with words. God is holy beyond our ability to imagine. We were created according to His will, and He deserves glory, honor, and power for His goodness. God’s glory and holiness brings repentance, reverence, thankfulness, and faith, for those who believe. Trust the holy, holy, holy Lord God Almighty, who was before, who is now, and who always will be.

*See “Twens” on page 3 for more about the sealed scroll.

*The Lamb that was slain
is worthy to receive...*



- EWPRO _____
- SHIRCE _____
- MWOSID _____
- TEGRSNTH _____
- HORONU _____
- LGYRO _____
- BEISNSLG _____

Hint: Unscramble the letters above to find out!

How many
sheep and shepherd staffs
are on this page?

Who Said It...?

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,
good will toward men.

Luke 2:14

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was,
and is, and is to come.

Revelation 4:8

Unto you is born this day in the city of David a
Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and
honour and power: for thou hast created all things,
and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

Revelation 4:11

Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole
earth is full of his glory.

Isaiah 6:3

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive
power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and
honour, and glory, and blessing.

Revelation 5:12



Draw Baby Jesus
in His manger bed.

Puzzle Fun
GLORY TO GOD

Answer Key: page 7



CrissCross

ACROSS

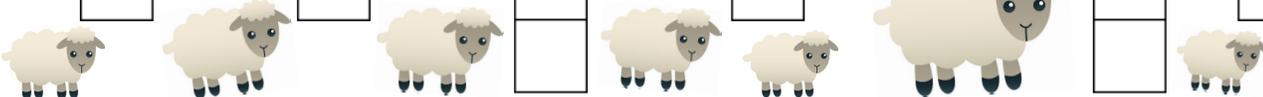
- 4 special angels with six wings
- 7 heavenly messenger
- 10 town where Jesus was born

DOWN

- 1 person who cares for sheep
- 2 animal's food box
- 3 old fashioned book
- 5 arrogance, conceit
- 6 mother of Jesus
- 8 importance, honor, majesty
- 9 baby sheep

The puzzle grid consists of a 10x10 grid of squares. The starting points for the clues are as follows:

- 1: Down, starting at (1,1)
- 2: Down, starting at (1,2)
- 3: Down, starting at (1,3)
- 4: Across, starting at (4,4)
- 5: Across, starting at (4,5)
- 6: Across, starting at (4,6)
- 7: Down, starting at (7,7)
- 8: Down, starting at (7,8)
- 9: Down, starting at (7,9)
- 10: Across, starting at (10,1)





*“Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,
which is Christ the Lord.”*

Luke 2:11

Holy Father in heaven,

Thank You for the message of the angel, the good tidings of great joy that the Savior—Christ the Lord—was born for us in the city of David. Thank You for the heavenly host who sang Your glory, and for Mary and Joseph, who were obedient to Your will. Thank You for the shepherds who hurried to the manger bed and worshipped the Holy Child, and for the wise men who also fell before Him, bringing gifts for the King of the world. Thank You most of all for sending Your Son to take on flesh and blood. Let us remember Christmas every day, that the Lamb of God came to shed His blood for the sin of the world. Only He is worthy. **Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.**

Thank You for the witness of the apostles and prophets. Give us ears to hear the message from Your holy Word, and give us hearts that will obey Your Word. Let us walk in Your ways to the end of our days.

Thank You for the witness and blessing of family. Give us grace to love our families well, and to spread the good tidings to all our loved ones. Let us follow the example of the Good Shepherd, who leads His flock like a shepherd and gently carries those who are with young.

May we say with the twenty-four elders around Your throne: “You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You have created all things, and for Your pleasure they are and were created.”

In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth.
 Lord God, heavenly King, Almighty God and Father:
 We worship You, we give thanks, we praise You for your glory.
 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
 You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
 You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
 For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
 You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 In the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Translation of a very old doxology of the Christian Church, part of which is pictured in the Latin language to the right.

Puzzle Answer Key



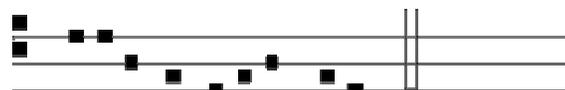
Millions of angels around the throne
 Seraphim standing above the throne
 Twenty-four elders near the throne
 Angel to shepherds
 Four living creatures near the throne
 Heavenly host
Who Said It?
 on the puzzle page.

There are 9 shepard 5 shepherd staffs
How Many?
 BLESSING
 GLORY
 HONOUR
 STRENGTH
 WISDOM
 RICHES
 POWER
Unscramble

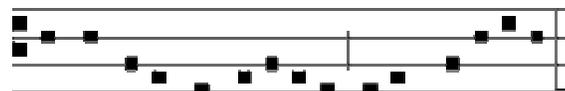
B	R	Y
M	O	R
A	L	R
L	G	N
E	A	V
L	N	G

Y	R	E
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E	M	H
L	H	A
R	P	A
A	R	H
V	I	S
N	G	L

D	R	L	R
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M	E	L	H
H	E	O	G
P	R	N	A
R	A	V	M
A	R	H	S
H	E	C	S
E	M	S	M
M	H	L	R
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H	E	C	S
E	M	S	M



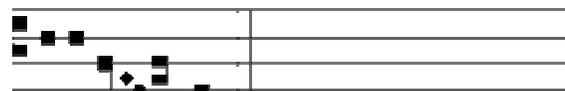
- Glória in excélsis Deo,



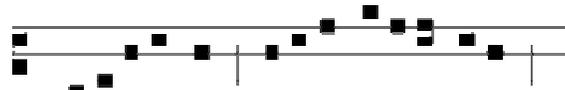
* Et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntátis.



- Laudámus te, benedicimus te,



adorámus te.



* Glorificámus te, grátias ágimus tibi,



propter magnam glóriam tuam.

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For Parents:

Pride and Joy

Pride is a grievous sin in the sight of God, and the Lord hates a proud look. Arrogance, conceit, and thinking of ourselves more highly than we ought, are directly forbidden in Scripture. How does this relate to being proud of our families?

Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

Proverbs 17:6

The Bible says that grandchildren are the “crown” of old men, and that the “glory” of children are their fathers. Does this mean that if we are proud of our grandchildren—or if children glory in their fathers—we’re living in a sinful, prideful manner? No! The blessings and glory of generational joy in this verse are explained in Barnes’ *Notes on the Bible*:

The reciprocity of good in sustained family relationships. A long line of children's children is the glory of old age, a long line of ancestors the glory of their descendants.

The Apostle Paul called the Christian brothers at Philippi his *joy and crown* (Philippians 4:1), and he called the brothers in Thessalonica his *glory and joy* (1 Thessalonians 2:19-20). Was the chosen vessel of Christ guilty of the sin of pride because people had been brought from darkness to Light through his preaching? No! The glory and credit for conversion always went to Jesus. The Apostle gloried in the cross of Christ, and he desired only that others would know Jesus and be saved from sin.

After Jesus was baptized, a voice from heaven proclaimed: *This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.* (Matthew 3:17)

Being well pleased with our children (or grands) isn’t being proud in a sinful manner. If we are thankful that they are walking in truth, upright and honest, loving and caring, and if we credit that to God and His goodness, we are glorifying in the sustained family relationship. We glorify God for our families; we recognize that He has given them, and He sustains them daily. We acknowledge we can only raise our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord by His good guidance and grace. We can be well pleased with our families, and give God the glory for them.

Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.

Psalm 127:3-5

