Good News of Christmas #2 “His Name” Mark 1:1

**Intro**: “Go Tell It on the Mountain” = Birth of Jesus is Good News!

* Get thee up on a high mountain and shout it!
* Use this season to share the Good News.

**Mark 1:1**

Review – The Beginning of the Gospel

 ***Rejoice! God has Done a New Work to Set Things Right***.

Preview = Christ (title) and Son of God

This Morning, His Name, **JESUS**

 *There’s just something about that Name*

 *His Name is Wonderful! Bless that Wonderful Name of Jesus!*

 *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name!*

**t/s** – We sing much about the Name, Jesus, because the Bible makes much of His Name! No place makes more of it than his Birth Accounts

Remember Gabriel did not waste many words when he appeared to Mary in Nazareth. Greeted her… you have found favor with God.

**Luke 1:31**

Matthew tells the same story from Matthew’s perspective. The angel came to Joseph in a dream. Do not be afraid to take her as your wife. Her pregnancy is a miracle of God… from the Holy Spirit.

**Matthew 1:21**

Joseph Obeyed the Lord and he did not forget about the Name.

**Matthew 1: 24-25**

When the day came to formally announce the boy’s name: **Luke 2:21**

**t/s** – To understand and celebrate the birth of Jesus is to understand and celebrate **the Name, Jesus**.

**Consider What His Name Says about Jesus.**

**Exp** – ***Jesus*** was a common Hebrew name in 1st C. A sentence name.

 **Jehovah**/YHWH **Saves** (helps, delivers, rescues)

 Same name as Joshua in OT only shortened (Fred/Frederick)

 **In the OT** only YWHW Himself Saves… (leaders are His tools)

 “***I, even I, am the LORD, and there is no Savior besides Me***.”

 **Isaiah 43:11**

 **Matthew 1:21** – Wow! “***He Himself***” = Emphatic!

 Jesus Saves His People!

 The Angel says to the Shepherd, “I bring you Good News of great joy. For unto you is born this day **a Savior**! (24 times)

 **t/s** – Bold, Audacious… If not True; Blasphemous!

**ILL** – A few years ago at Christmas, the WSJ ran an article about a church in Manhattan, Redeemer Presbyterian, Tim Keller.

 “***His preaching sometimes bothers people***”

**Example:** *Christianity will never be a good religion among many other good religions. Every other religion has a founder who says, “I will show you the way to God. Only Christianity has a founder who says, “I am God, come to save you.” If that is right, He is superior. If it is wrong, Christianity is wrong and inferior. Not a lot of wiggle room there, even on Christmas!*

**App** – Who Do you Say that I AM? (The Question!)

**Consider What His Name Says about You and Me.**

**Exp** – “***Save***” is a word that speaks to His power and our weakness.

 When we call Jesus Savior, we are making a confession;

 Not only a confession about Him, but about ourselves.

 ***We need to be Rescued***.

 There is always a note of desperation in the word.

**ILL** – Remember when Peter walked on the Water…

 The wind and waves threatened him… He was afraid, sinking, desperate… He Said?? ***Lord, Save Me***!

**Pride Resists the Savior!**

We are always trying to make Jesus a Teacher, Leader, Helper, Healer; these are easier to embrace. Savior renders us passive and offends our Pride. ***Do we really Need a Savior***?! (are we that bad?)

**ILL** – Brought 7th grade girl home after camp…. Mom and boyfriend.

“Momma, I Got Saved!” (I followed her up onto the porch.)

Boyfriend, “***Saved from what***?”

How would you answer that Question? The Angel already did.

**Matthew 1:21** – ***He will save His people from their sins***!

Sin is on our hands, our lips, in our hearts… Serving Sin as our Master and the Wages of Sin is Death. We Need a Savior!

Christmas is not a nice story about a nice couple who had a nice baby who grew to give nice people a nice little boost. At Christmas, we declare the Good News of the Savior born to Rescue Sinners!

**Invitation** – The Truth about Yourself (Repent) and Jesus (Believe).

 Call upon the Name of the Lord and be Saved.