'O little town of Bethlehem:

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.'

The news is received by Shepherds! 'This is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word' (Is 66:2).

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord,

2:8-14 THEY HEARD Good news. Great Joy. All People. Today. To you. Glory. Peace.

A Savior:

Sin is our greatest problem.

'It was not the sorrow of the

Ignoring God in God's World. 'Whoever commits sin also

world that broke the heart of Christ, but its wickedness.'

commits lawlessness and sin is lawlessness' (1 John 3:4). Jesus atoned for sin (1 Jn 2:2)

Jesus is a great Savior.

Messiah:

'Anointed King.

Rules not with military power (Jn 18:36)

Rules with the power of great mercy.

Lord:

Master (Jude 4-5)

The unique and universal Sovereign.

Lord I believe you are the Christ the Son of God who is coming into the world' In 11:27

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

2:15-16

THEY WENT

'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about.'

2:17-19

THEY WITNESSED

"When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

The shepherds were the first evangelists. The people were amazed and in awe.

2:20

THEY WORSHIPPED

'praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.'

The Shepherds went to Bethlehem and were not disappointed. Christian hope is not a wistful 'I hope so' but a God's Word guaranteed 'I know so.'