December 23, 2018



John Greene, Senior Pastor "HIS NAME IS NAZARENE"

LUKE 1:26-27 (NASB)

TRUTH: Nazareth as a birth place served the purpose of prophecy and comfort.

TRUTH: Jesus being from Nazareth means Jesus was from "the wrong side of the tracks."

I. NAZARETH WAS A SMALL, INSIGNIFICANT TOWN.

TRUTH: Podunk Holler Nazareth was where Jesus was conceived and grew up from a boy to a man.

TRUTH: Matthew quotes some O.T. prophets who said it, but never wrote it down (Jude 14).

TRUTH: Where we are born and to whom are part of God's plan for the message of our lives.

II. NAZARETH WAS LAUGHED AT AND RIDICULED.

TRUTH: Most of the people of Galilee were fishermen or farmers.

III. WHAT THIS MEANS FOR US

A. God sees even us (Luke 1:26).

TRUTH: Mary's story is that even common people are known by name in heaven. If God saw Mary in Nazareth, He sees you and me where we are.

TRUTH: Even Lufkin is home to names known in heaven because God sees little me and little you.

B. God can use even us in a great way.

CHRISTMAS TRUTH: God is the only one full of grace and truth. Only God dispenses grace.

BALANCE TRUTH: We are not to worship or adore Mary, but we aren't to ignore her either.

What God saw in Mary:

1) Faithfulness

TRUTH: It's not where you're from, it's what you are on the inside that matters.

INSIGHT: Biblically we can have a Christian home anywhere regardless of where we live.

TRUTH: Tithing doesn't get easier with increased income.

2) Humility and availability

TRUE ADAGE: The ability to be blessed is availability to God's will.

INVITATION: 2 CHRONICLES 16:9, "The eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth THAT He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His."