



*An angel of the Lord appeared,
saying to you*

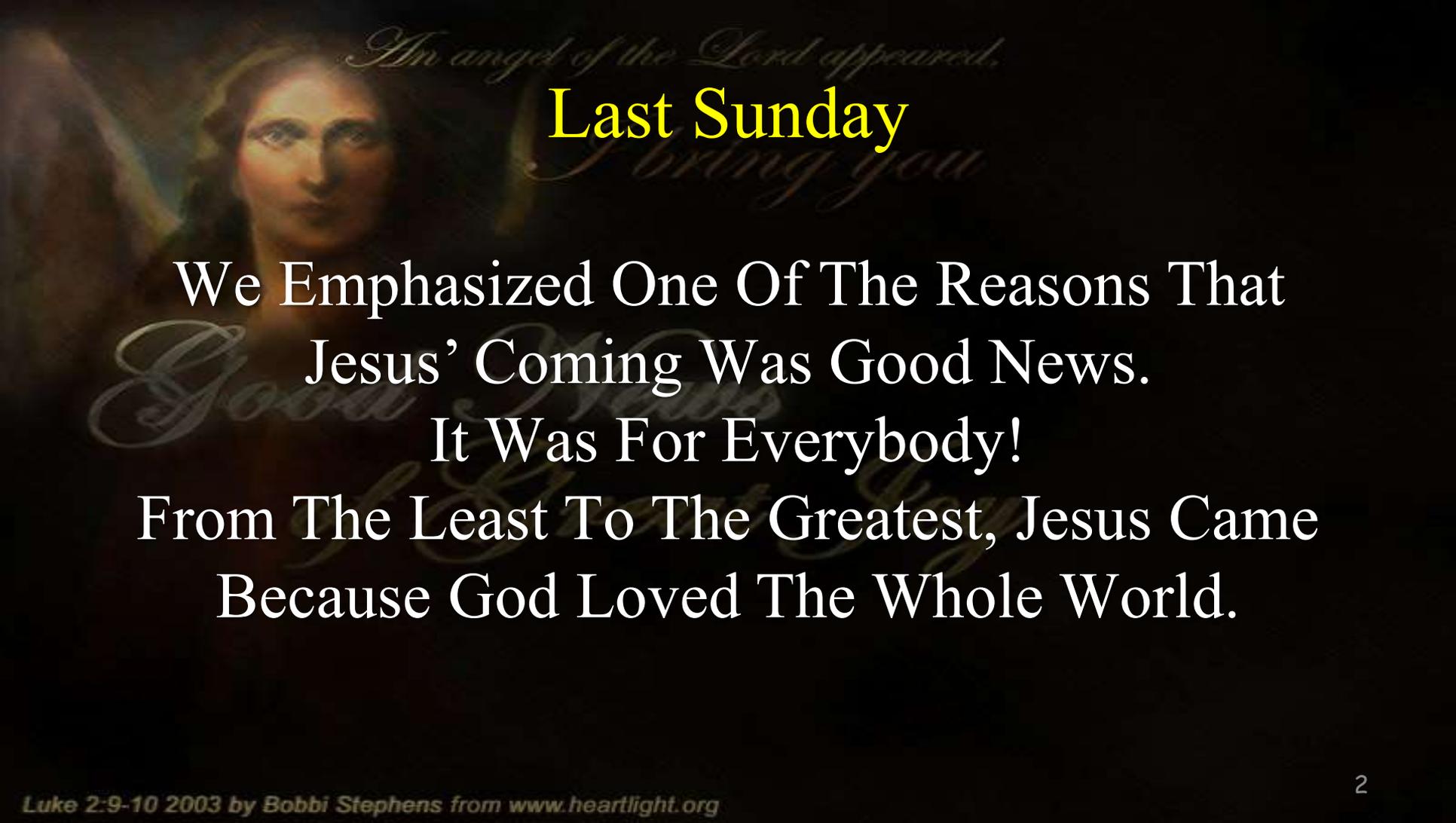
Good News!

Savior

Messiah

Lord

Luke 2:11-12



Last Sunday

We Emphasized One Of The Reasons That
Jesus' Coming Was Good News.

It Was For Everybody!

From The Least To The Greatest, Jesus Came
Because God Loved The Whole World.

The Focus Is Too Often On The Wrong Thing.



When we point at
Jesus' birth, people
often see our
“finger” or
an image of a
Nativity Scene!

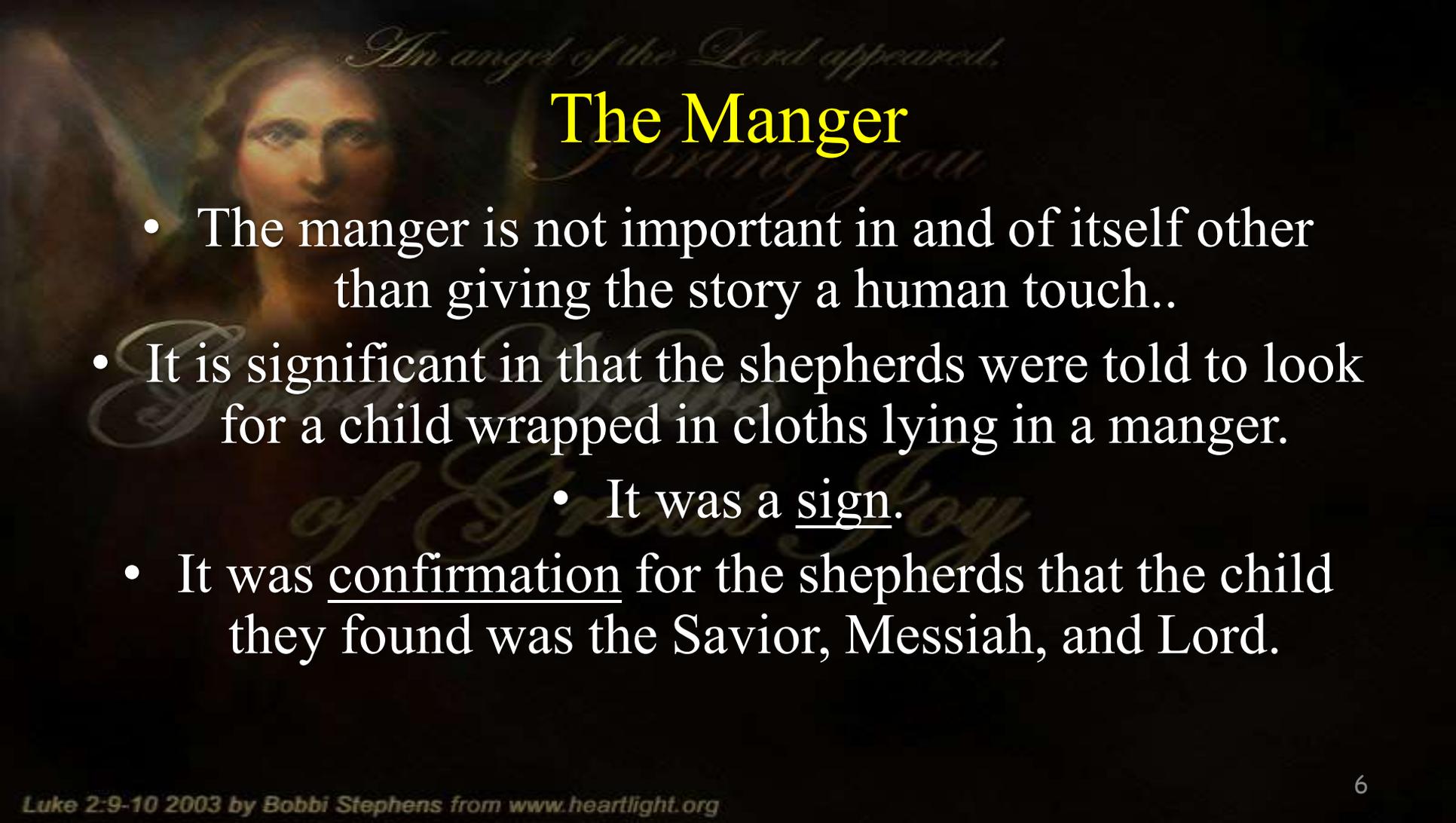
Think of Our Nativity Scenes





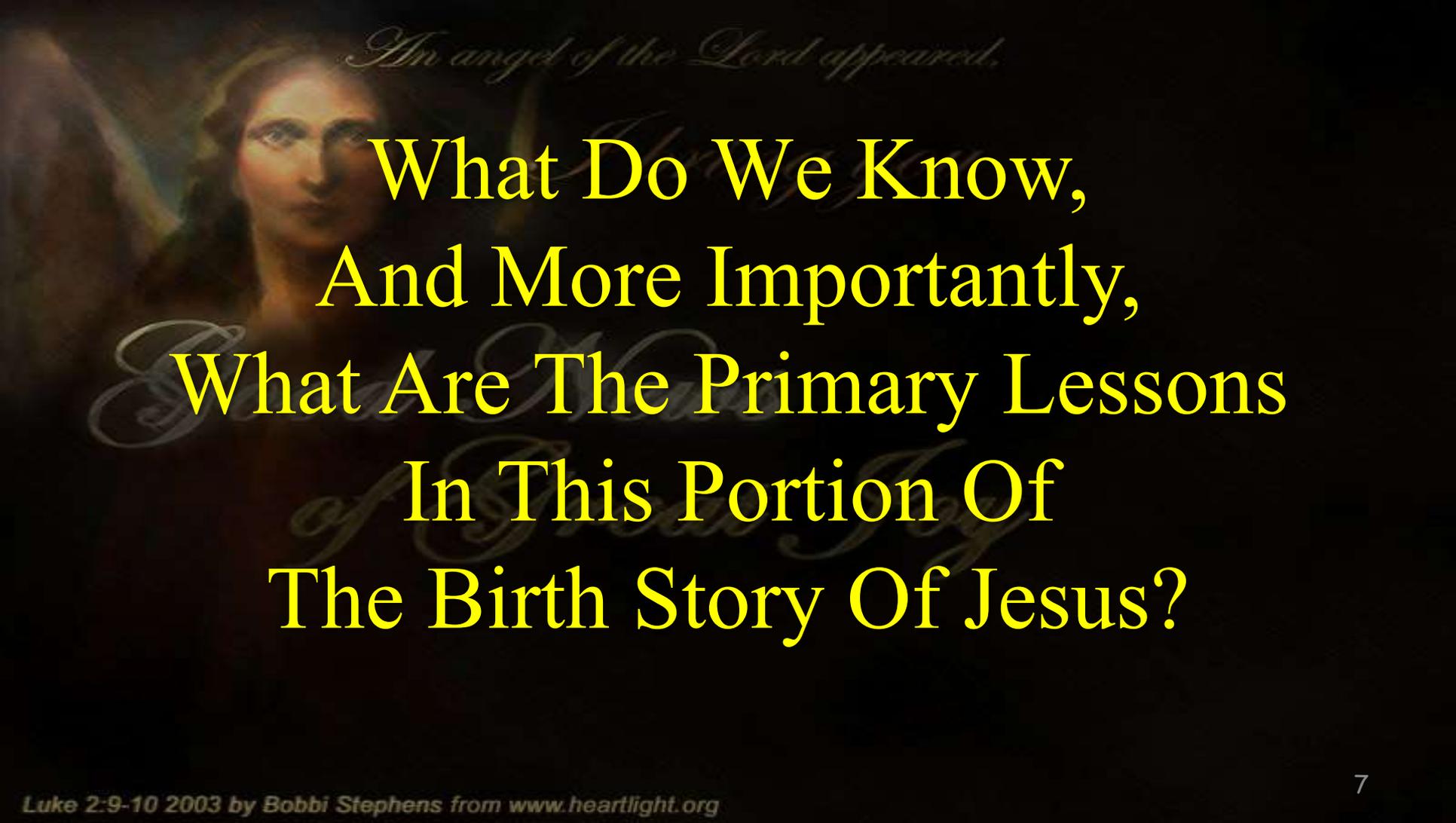
“When the legend becomes the truth...”

- The Date Of Jesus’ Birth (Jan. 6, Dec. 25, ???)
 - Mary ✓
 - Baby Jesus ✓
 - Joseph ✓
 - Three Wise Men
- At Least Two Shepherds ✓
 - Animals
 - A Manger ✓
 - Stable ✓



The Manger

- The manger is not important in and of itself other than giving the story a human touch..
- It is significant in that the shepherds were told to look for a child wrapped in cloths lying in a manger.
 - It was a sign.
- It was confirmation for the shepherds that the child they found was the Savior, Messiah, and Lord.

An angel of the Lord is depicted in the background, with long, flowing hair and a serene expression. The angel's face is the central focus of the image, with soft lighting highlighting their features. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a night sky or a celestial realm. The text is overlaid on this image.

An angel of the Lord appeared.

**What Do We Know,
And More Importantly,
What Are The Primary Lessons
In This Portion Of
The Birth Story Of Jesus?**



An angel of the Lord appeared.

Luke 2:11-12 (NIV)

*Today in the town of David a Savior
has been born to you; he is Christ the
Lord. This will be a sign to you: You
will find a baby wrapped in cloths
and lying in a manger."*



Scripture
Refers To Jesus
With Many
Names.
A Partial List...

God
Rock
Savior
Messiah
Emmanuel
Lamb of God
Lord of Lords
King of Kings
Alpha and Omega
Light of The World
Resurrection and Life
Name Above All Names
Jesus

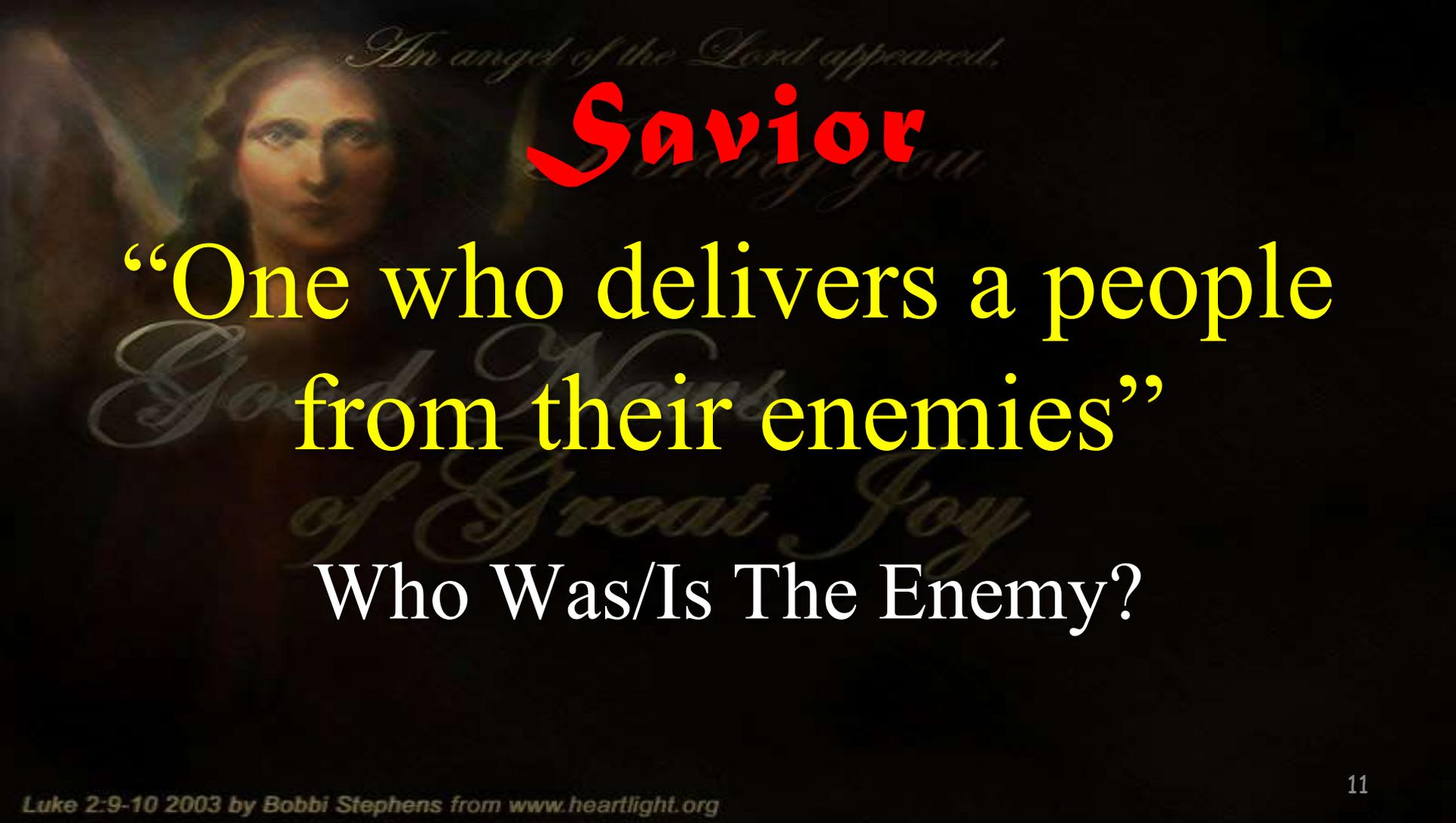
The background features a faint image of an angel with large, feathered wings, looking downwards. Overlaid on this is cursive text in a light grey color that reads: "An angel of the Lord appeared, I bring you Good News of Great Joy".

Three Important Identifiers

Savior

Christ

Lord



Savior

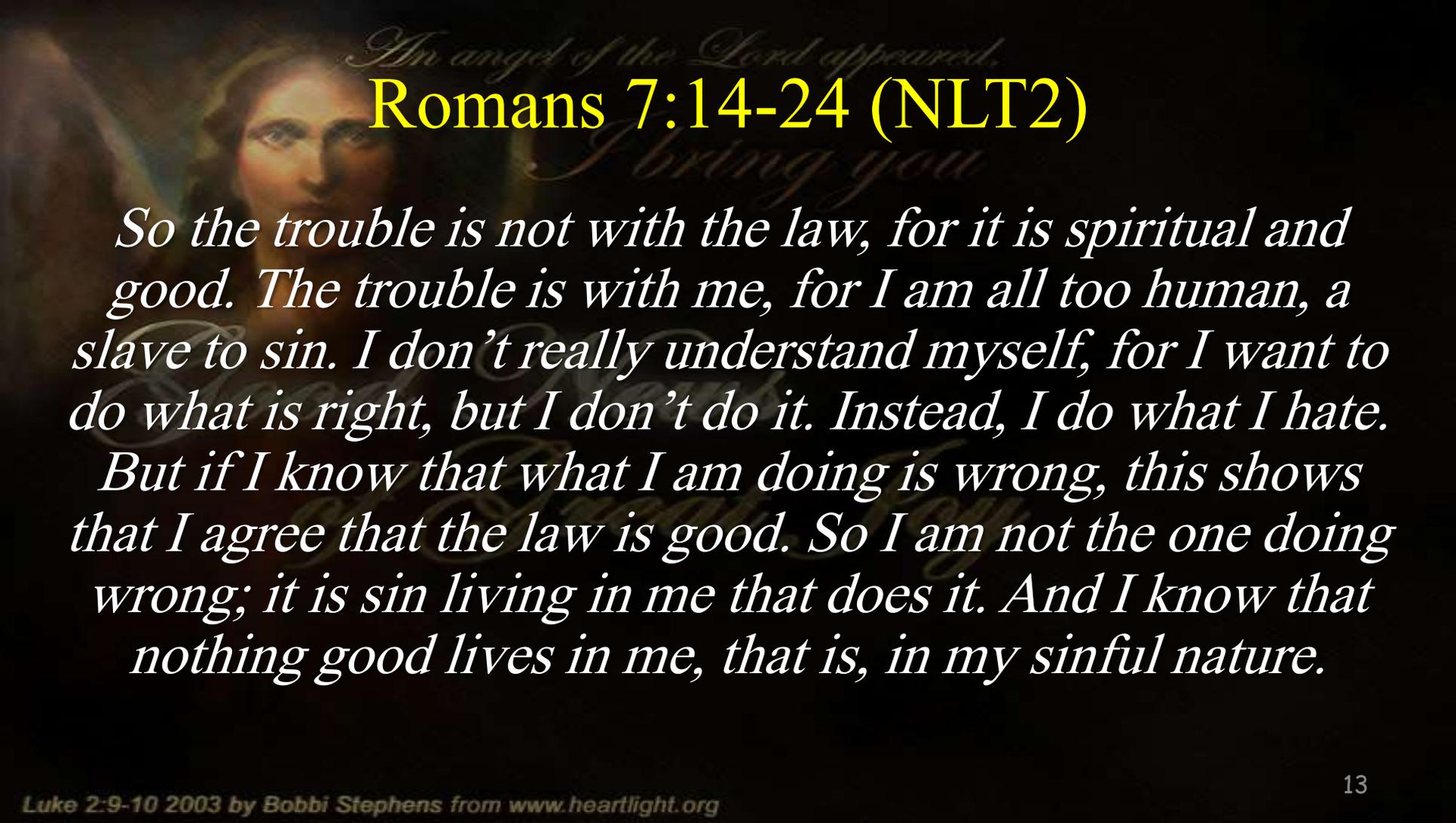
“One who delivers a people
from their enemies”

Who Was/Is The Enemy?

An angel of the Lord appeared.

The “Enemy”

- The 1st Century enemy of Israel was seen as Rome.
- *Satan*, literally means adversary or opponent. He is constantly seeking to “devour” humanity. (1 Pet. 5:8)
- *Death*, “*The last enemy to be destroyed is death*” 1 Corinthians 15:26
- *Sin*, “...*he will save his people from their sins.*” Matthew 1:21
- *Self*, In many ways we are our own worst enemy.
 - “*We have met the enemy, and he is us*”



Romans 7:14-24 (NLT2)

So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good. So I am not the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. And I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature.

The angel of the Lord appeared

I want to do what is right, but I can't. I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway. But if I do what I don't want to do, I am not really the one doing wrong; it is sin living in me that does it. I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong. I love God's law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me. Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?



An angel of the Lord appeared,

I bring you
Christ

**Transliterated From Christos,
The Greek Equivalent For
“Messiah”**

An angel of the Lord with large, feathered wings, looking directly at the viewer. The background is dark with faint, cursive text.

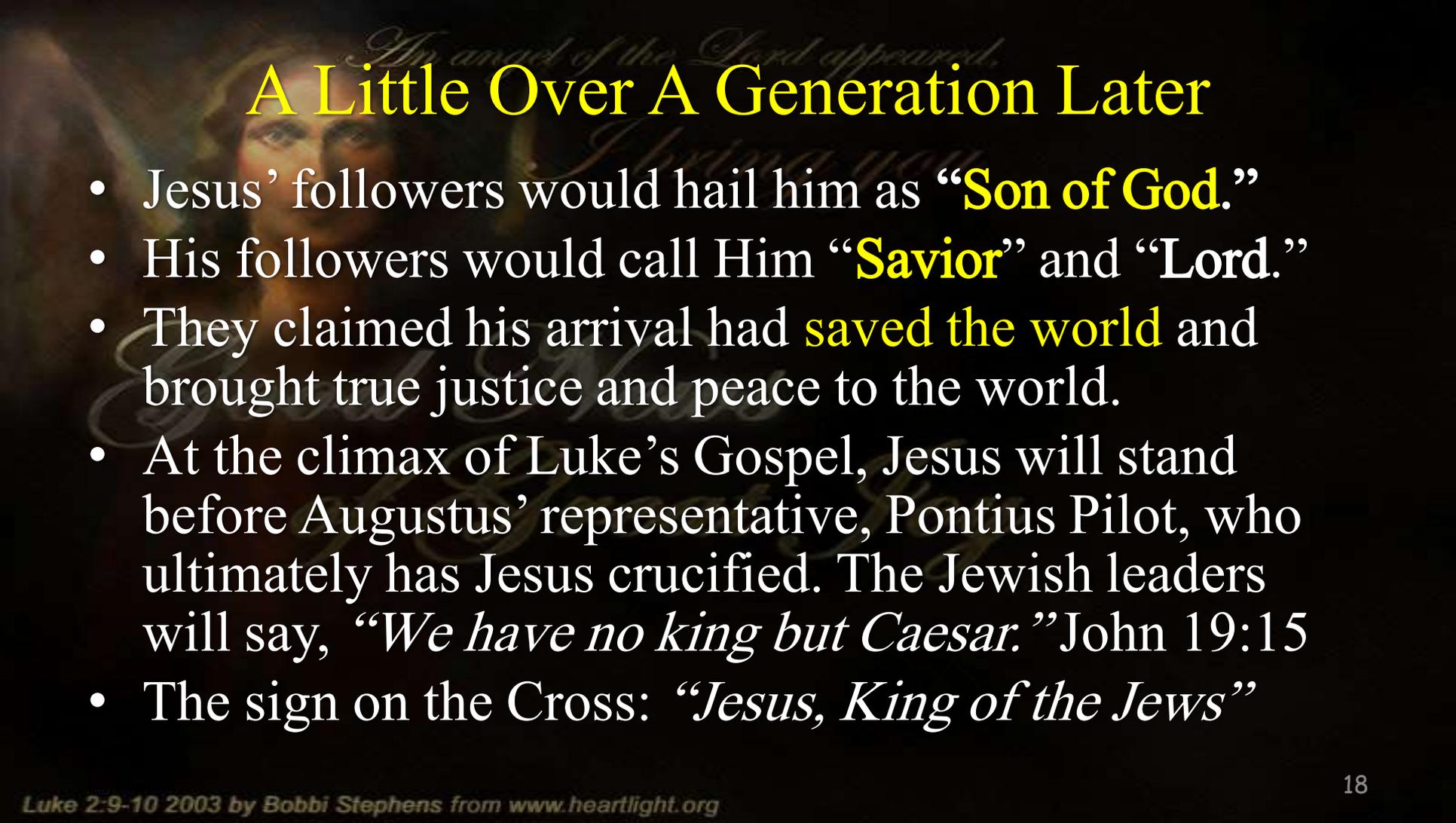
An angel of the Lord appeared,

bringing you
Lord

Good News
of Great Joy
“Master, or Owner, one who has
power or authority”

Luke Introduces This Story With Caesar Augustus, The Emperor of Rome.

- He was the adopted son of Julius Caesar and was at the height of his and the Roman empire's power.
- Augustus turned the Roman Republic into an Empire, with himself as head. He declared his father, Julius Caesar, a God and presented himself as “**son of God**” and unequaled in power.
- Augustus was said to be the “**savior**” of the world.
- He was its king, its “**lord.**”



A Little Over A Generation Later

- Jesus' followers would hail him as “**Son of God.**”
- His followers would call Him “**Savior**” and “**Lord.**”
- They claimed his arrival had **saved the world** and brought true justice and peace to the world.
- At the climax of Luke's Gospel, Jesus will stand before Augustus' representative, Pontius Pilot, who ultimately has Jesus crucified. The Jewish leaders will say, “*We have no king but Caesar.*” John 19:15
- The sign on the Cross: “*Jesus, King of the Jews*”



*An angel of the Lord appeared,
I bring you*

Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)

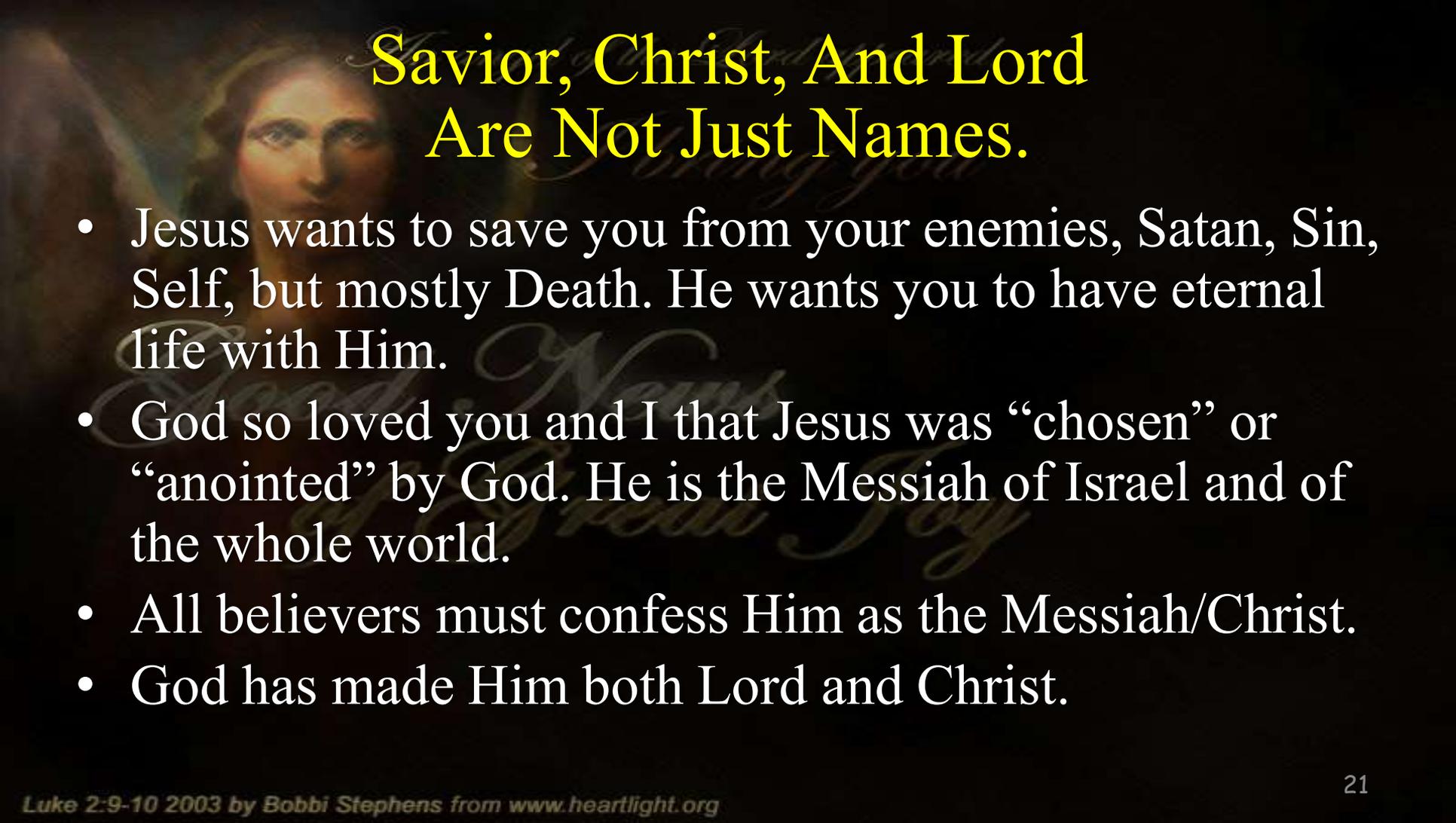
Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

An angel of the Lord appeared.

Peter's Sermon Summary On Pentecost

Acts 2:36-39 (NIV)

"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."



Savior, Christ, And Lord Are Not Just Names.

- Jesus wants to save you from your enemies, Satan, Sin, Self, but mostly Death. He wants you to have eternal life with Him.
- God so loved you and I that Jesus was “chosen” or “anointed” by God. He is the Messiah of Israel and of the whole world.
- All believers must confess Him as the Messiah/Christ.
- God has made Him both Lord and Christ.