

**Home for Christmas: Recognizing the Gift of Christmas**  
**Pastor Dennis Rouse**  
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**LUKE 2:8-14 NLT**

*That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."*

**3 Major Gifts to Always Remember:**

**1. Complete forgiveness from my past**

**LUKE 2:11 NLT**

*"The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!"*

**2. Perfect peace for my present**

**LUKE 2:14 NLT**

*"Glory to God in highest heaven, and PEACE ON EARTH to those with whom God is pleased."*

**JOHN 14:27 CEV**

*"I give you peace, the kind of peace that only I can give. It isn't like the peace that this world can give. So don't be worried or afraid."*

**3. Eternal life for my future**

**JOHN 3:16 CEV**

*“God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die.”*