

## Watch This!

Many boys in their “immortal” adolescent years have taken some outlandish chances to impress the world around them by performing some amazing act or terrifying deed. And immediately before they climb the municipal water tower or jump their motorcycle off some extremely high edifice, they announce to the world (at least their closest friends), “WATCH THIS!” This is a sign of their commitment to shock the world with a death-defying feat which their audience has never seen before.

God in effect said, “Watch this!” in Habakkuk 1:5, *“Look at the nations and watch— and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.”* God was about to bring King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon to terrify the world, especially God’s people in the apostate nation of Judah.

However, it was the shepherds in Luke 2:8ff that got to, “Watch this!” whenever Jesus was born. *“An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”* In verse 13 they were amazed again, *“Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”*

The Christmas season is a great time to be reminded of Jesus’ “death-defying deed” on the cross! Angels are still watching, waiting to rejoice at our repentance (Luke 15:7) and in 2 Peter 3:9, God is patiently waiting to say one last time, “Watch this!”

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December 25, 2016

## WELCOME!

### Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

### Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class- 10:00 a.m.

### Thursday

Home Bible study-7:00pm

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~ On this day in 336 the first recorded celebration of Christmas took place ~

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*"Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.."*

Colossians 2:16,17

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## Today's Sermon: *Heaven's Bells*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**

**[aicoc.org](http://aicoc.org)** (Antioch Initiative)

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**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](http://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Scripture:** Luke 1:5-17

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Next potluck: January 15<sup>th</sup>. Ideas for a theme welcome!**
- **Ladies Class: 10am, Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at the building. We will be starting our new book, *Struggle, Seek, Grow* by Cynthia Dianne Guy. How 12 women in Scripture sought spiritual maturity. Pick up a copy any time and take it home.**
- **Midweek Bible study @ McElhaney's Thursday nights at 7pm. Coffee and dessert is usually served. All contributions gladly accepted!**



- Midweek Bible study at McElhaney's on Thursday may be postponed until the new year. TBA
- We are expecting several visitors this morning. We welcome you all to our worship.
- There are several plastic baby bottles for anyone who would like one to take home and fill with money to help the Endless Mountains Pregnancy Care Center. First Look Pregnancy Center is located at 209 Lockhart St. in Sayre. Their mission is to change the hearts of women who seek abortion and provide a caring alternative.
- Justin Morriston from the church in Lewistown, PA, is being interviewed for the preaching position at the new church in Tunkhannock.
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year wishes have been sent to us from the church in Kittanning!

## PRAYERS...

- Ben Wright, an elder at the Kittanning church, has recently discovered he has diabetes. It has already affected his vision and he is trying to control it with diet. Pray that he can.
- Patty and Ruthie's sister in law, Deborah, has been diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer and is currently on chemo. The doctor thinks it's possible the tumor has reduced in size since starting chemo.
- Endless Mountains Pregnancy Center requests prayers for their clients, that abortion-minded women will have a change of heart, and that all will accept the abundant life in Christ.
- Darlene has asked for prayers that her father, Richard Beiber, will accept the truth sometime before he dies and will come out of the Catholic faith. Pray for Richard as he is in hospice care because of his esophageal cancer.
- Pray for all of our family members and loved ones who are yet lost to come to Christ.
- Remember to pray for Lori Kashorek, from the Plattsburgh, NY church, who has lung cancer.
- "Rocky" Perry of Sayre asked for prayers for struggles he is trying to overcome in his life, and pray that his Bible study will lead him to the Truth.
- Keep praying for the Endless Mountains church in Tunkhannock and their search for a preacher.
- Pray for comfort for those from war-torn countries who have no homes, are starving and without water and are not safe and have lost friends and relatives in the violence that surrounds them.
- Remember to pray for Matthew Lowe in Ohio, Ken Wilkins, of Gray, TN, and Edna Jarrett, of the Bronx.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry

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