

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pastor Joe's email address is joe@southreno.com.



Music by James Ramsey Murry Words by Martin Luther or John Thomas McFarland (Circa Between the 16^{th} C and 19^{th} C)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head; The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes; I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me forever, and love me I pray; Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there.



S uddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, ¹⁰ but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. ¹¹ <u>The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!</u> ¹² And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." ¹³ Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." — Luke 2:9–14, NLT

But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.²¹ "She will bear a Son; and <u>you</u> <u>shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.</u>" <u>Matthew 1:20-21, NASB95</u>

1. The manger solves our problem of Sin.

Matthew 1:21, NASB95 -²¹ "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for <u>He will save His people from their sins</u>."

2. The manger meets our need for a Savior.

Luke 2:11, NASB95 - ¹¹ for today in the city of David <u>there has</u> been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

3. The manger provides us with a great truth...



God uses adverse circumstances, that make no sense at the time, to accomplish His purposes in the future.