

NOT A  
*Silent Night*

LUKE 2:1-20









**1** In those days Caesar Augustus declared that everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. **2** This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. **3** Everyone went to their own cities to be enrolled. **4** Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. **5** He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. **6** While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. **7** She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom.

- Luke 2:1-7

**8** Nearby shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. **9** The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified. **10** The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you — wonderful, joyous news for all people. **11** Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. **12** This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." **13** Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly forces was with the angel praising God. They said, **14** "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

- Luke 2:8-14

**15** When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go right now to Bethlehem and see what’s happened. Let’s confirm what the Lord has revealed to us.” **16** They went quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. **17** When they saw this, they reported what they had been told about this child. **18** Everyone who heard it was amazed at what the shepherds told them. **19** Mary committed these things to memory and considered them carefully. **20** The shepherds returned home, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. Everything happened just as they had been told.

- Luke 2:15-20

A dark blue, starry night sky with a large, textured rock formation in the foreground. The rock formation is illuminated from the left, creating a gradient of blue tones. The sky is filled with numerous small, bright stars of varying colors, including white, yellow, and blue. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Do you hear what they hear?

The noise of personal circumstances

**2** As for you, Bethlehem of Ephrathah, though you are the least significant of Judah's forces, one who is to be a ruler in Israel on my behalf will come out from you. His origin is from remote times, from ancient days. **3** Therefore, he will give them up until the time when she who is in labor gives birth. The rest of his kin will return to the people of Israel. **4** He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. They will dwell secure, because he will surely become great throughout the earth; **5** he will become one of peace.

- Micah 5:2-5



Do you hear what they hear?

The noise of personal circumstances



Do you hear what they hear?

The noise of personal circumstances

The noise of society's labels

“This is not glorious work. This is not the best shift. Shepherds had bad reputations. The nature of their work meant they could not observe Israel’s ceremonial laws. They were considered unreliable and could not give testimony in law courts. They were a despised class of people...to these lowly men, the angel gives the highest theology. These despised shepherds are the first to receive the announcement of the gospel.”

-Thabiti Anyabwile



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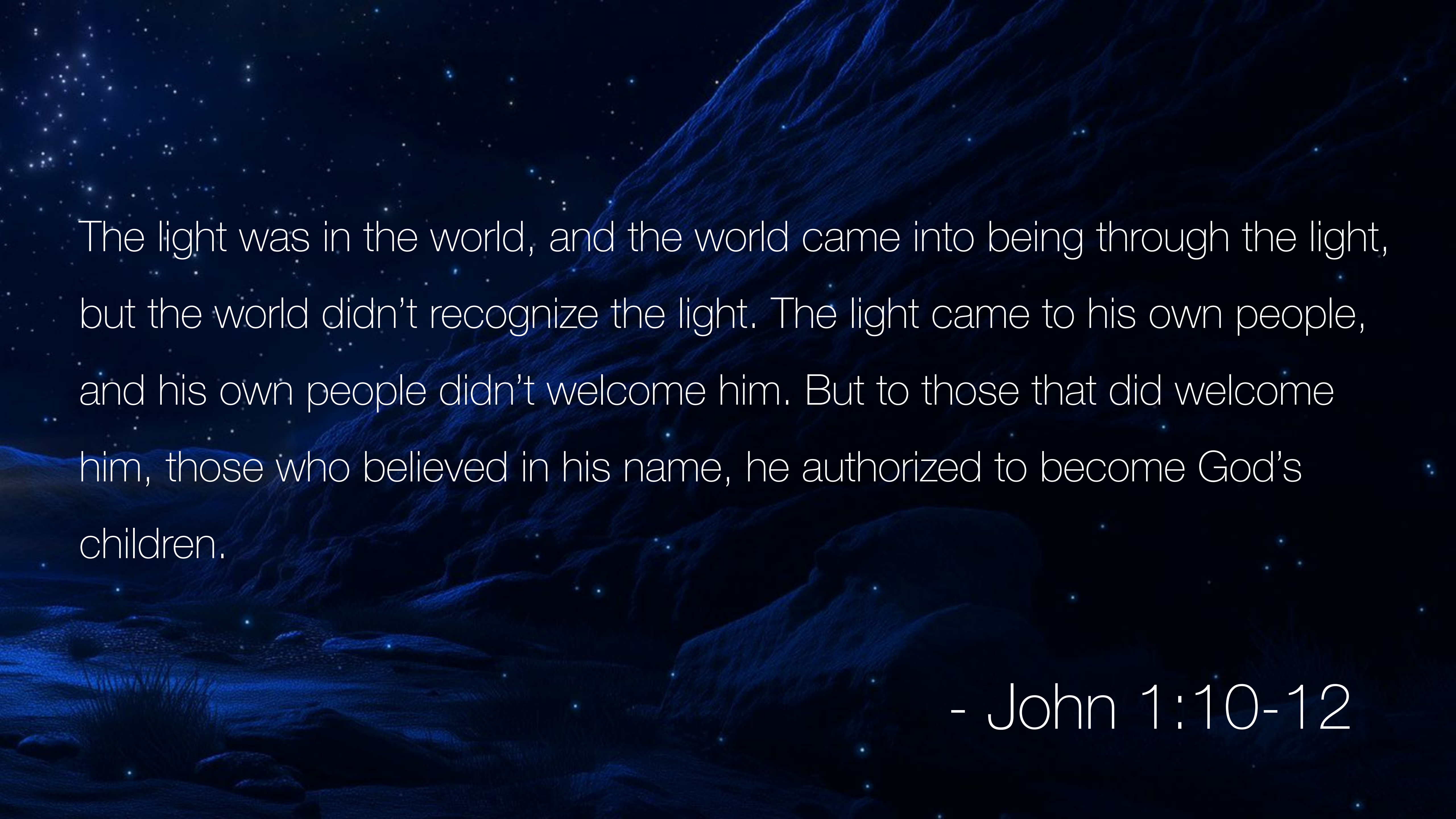
- Luke 2:15-20





We have a God who looks at one thing, and one thing only. It's Jesus. Do you know him? Do you love him?

Jesus is the only prerequisite. He did the "earning." You don't have to. You do the believing.



The light was in the world, and the world came into being through the light, but the world didn't recognize the light. The light came to his own people, and his own people didn't welcome him. But to those that did welcome him, those who believed in his name, he authorized to become God's children.

- John 1:10-12

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ANDREW PETERSON PRESENTS

# BEHOLD the LAMB of GOD

