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Viewpoints

Observing events in our modern world from the viewpoint of our ascended Savior.

Scarier than Santa ~ December 19, 2014

The alarming angels rained earth with an amazing message.

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While Santa is sporting a “ho, ho, ho” smile, four young siblings believe they’re in the scariest place on earth. Three are screaming for rescue with outstretched arms. The last looks frozen in panicked prayer.



It’s a tradition for some parents to put their children into the lap of a white-bearded stranger wearing a bright red suite. And, as the Chicago Tribune documents, not a few youngsters find the out-of-the-ordinary experience less than pleasant. As it was for the shepherds on the night that Christ was born.

It was not only an out-of-the-ordinary experience for the shepherds in the fields outside Bethlehem, it was an out-of-this-world experience. With just one angel appearing in the sky, the shepherds were terrified because “the glory of the Lord shone around them.” It’s natural for the awe of the Almighty God to produce dread among creatures whose natures are corrupt in sin. But it was going to get even more alarming. Unexpectedly and instantly, the heavens exploded as a great company of the heavenly host appeared.

Unlike children terrified by Santa Clause, it’s a real life-and-death situation when mortals meet the heavenly servants of the Holy One. But then, here’s the amazing thing about this alarming encounter: the angels deliver a message of amazing grace. “Don’t be afraid,” said God’s messenger. “Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.”

It’s amazing that the Righteous Judge didn’t send the angels with sickles of death to work a harvest of judgment in those fields. That judgment day is coming. But before that great and last day arrives, God wants us to get right with him. So God sent the angels to announce the amazing birth of Christ. Christ is the name for the Son of God who came to earth as a baby

in order to grow up and offer his life as the payment that cancels mankind's debt of sin. This is indeed good news of great joy for anyone who's honest enough to admit that sin is too costly to pay for ourselves.

Only God can pay for our sins. This is why he came into our world through the virgin. And this is why the message of the Christmas angels is so amazing.

Amazing grace-- how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see! (Hymn 379 CW)

Source Material (Links may become inactive over time.)

[Pictures: Scared of Santa](#) @chicagotribune.com

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Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz

