

# Little People, Big God

## Luke 2:1-7

This passage is about the great reversal

### What?

**Reversed! The powerful have been dispersed, and the weak have been put first**

Caesar was really the little guy in the story—

Caesar Augustus reigned for 41 years, and was known for his system of government that maintained unity and peace, but with brutal methods—he was worshipped as a “god”

This “god-like” emperor “spoke his will” in an edict that a census is to be taken for taxation purposes

Mary and Joseph are seemingly little people, submitting to the irresistible will of the emperor-god,” who had “spoken”

*Micah 5:2, ESV—But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days*

It wasn't Caesar's word being enacted that night, it was God's word, moving Mary and Joseph into place

Mary and Joseph were exalted by God's grace, greater than Caesar Augustus

Through them, God brought real peace into the world

*Matthew 1:23, ESV—“...the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us)*

Unlike Caesar, distant in his palace in Rome, God was drawing near to mankind that night in Bethlehem, reconciling people to Himself; real peace is “God with us”

And how unlikely is it that the son of peasants, born in an animal shelter and sleeping in a feeding trough, would ultimately rule from God's throne-room

**The Big Question—What did Mary treasure up and ponder? (2:19 and 51)**

Mary probably safely stored in her heart all that God had said through the angel, and its fulfillment

**1:47-49**—Mary was astounded at how the Lord had taken an unlikely person like her and done such mighty things

She also ascribed holiness to God, because through her God made possible the coming of the Saviour, who saves not just from sin, but to holiness

**1:52-53**—This is a commentary on what God had done by dethroning Caesar and exalting Mary and Joseph, and Jesus

She probably specifically pondered the “good things” that the Lord had filled her up with—safety, peace, joy, and ultimately the Saviour, “God with us”

### So What?

What promise in connection with the coming of Jesus will you lay in store in your heart?—great joy (vs. 10)

But there's more—what good things can you enumerate that the Lord has filled you with?

“God with us”—peace, the presence of His Spirit and eternal life should be at the top of the list, which even COVID can't take away

The final say—Jesus

*John 14:27, ESV—Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid*

### Now What?

Choose a Christmas promise to store in your heart

List the “good things” God has given you in Jesus