Oxford Baptist Church – Nov 26, 2023 – Robin W. Pifer The Scenes of Christmas – "The Chosen of God"

Intro

• What is the Christmas Scene in your life that you remember from childhood that helped you understand the true Christmas Story?

1. Mary was Chosen by God | Luke 1:26-38

2. Joseph was Chosen by God. Matt 1:18-24

- Matt 1:20-21-23
- Can you imagine the scene of what it was like that first Christmas morning?

3. Followers of Jesus Christ are Chosen by God

- Why do we need to be chosen by God to be a part of his eternal family?
- Ephesians 2:1-10 We are spiritually dead...
- What is God's answer to our problem? He redeems us in Jesus Christ.
- Father forgive them for they do not know what they are doing. Luke 23:34
- We are chosen by God before the foundations of the earth. Eph 1:3-14

Main Thought

 God the Father chooses us by the convicting power of the Holy Spirit to be called to follow, obey, and glorify Jesus Christ for the rest of our lives.

Questions for Personal and Group Study

- 1) What scene from childhood has impacted your life about the Christmas story?
- 2) Why did God Call Mary to be the mother of Jesus?
- 3) How did God's choosing Mary impact her life and family?
- 4) Why did God choose Joseph to carry through with his engagement to Mary?
- 5) Read Ephesians 2:1-3. How do these verses show our need for redemption/salvation through Jesus Christ?
- 6) As a follower of Jesus Christ, it is clear that nothing in our lives warrants salvation. How does "being chosen" and "adopted" into the family of God impact your view of salvation?
- 7) Why does Jesus' statement in Luke 23:34 impact our view about ourselves and others about our life before Christ in our life?
- 8) Take time to read Ephesians chapters 1 and 2. What is your response to these verses of scripture?
- 9) Discuss the main thought of the message. What stands out to you about the life of Mary and Joseph in the plan of God with Jesus coming to this world?
- 10) What is your greatest takeaway or truth that has impacted your life through the scriptures today?