



“Joy to the World - Are You Kidding?”

Surviving Christmas Series

Pastor Mark

12.15.19

2 things baby Jesus in the manger didn't do:

1) He didn't stop **BAD THINGS** from happening.

- *“When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to **kill** all the **boys in Bethlehem** and its vicinity who were **two years old and under**, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.” Matthew 2:16*
- *“Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” Matthew 2:17-18*
- Why is the world full of evil?
- Because it's full of **PEOPLE**.

2) The baby in the manger **DIDN'T** let bad things off the hook.

- *“The reason the Son of God appeared (born) was to **destroy the devil's work**.”*
- 1 John 3:8
- *“And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be **no more death** or **mourning** or **crying** or **pain**, for the **old order** of things has **passed away**.” Revelation 21:3-5*
- All of us at some point ask the following question about evil in the world: “God, **WHY?**” That's the wrong question.
- The right question is, “God, **WHEN?**”

We can live in **FEAR** & be **MISERABLE** because of evil.

- Or we can live knowing that Jesus will **FINISH** what He **STARTED!**