



Christmas Firsts

The First
Christmas Witness

Luke 2:15-20



Key Point:

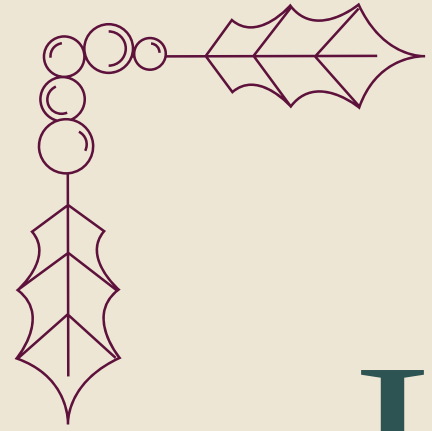


Every person must
“do something”



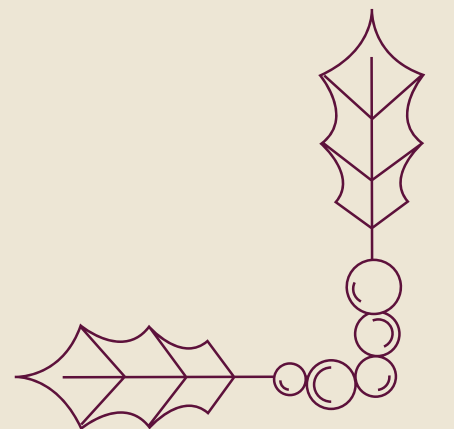
with Jesus



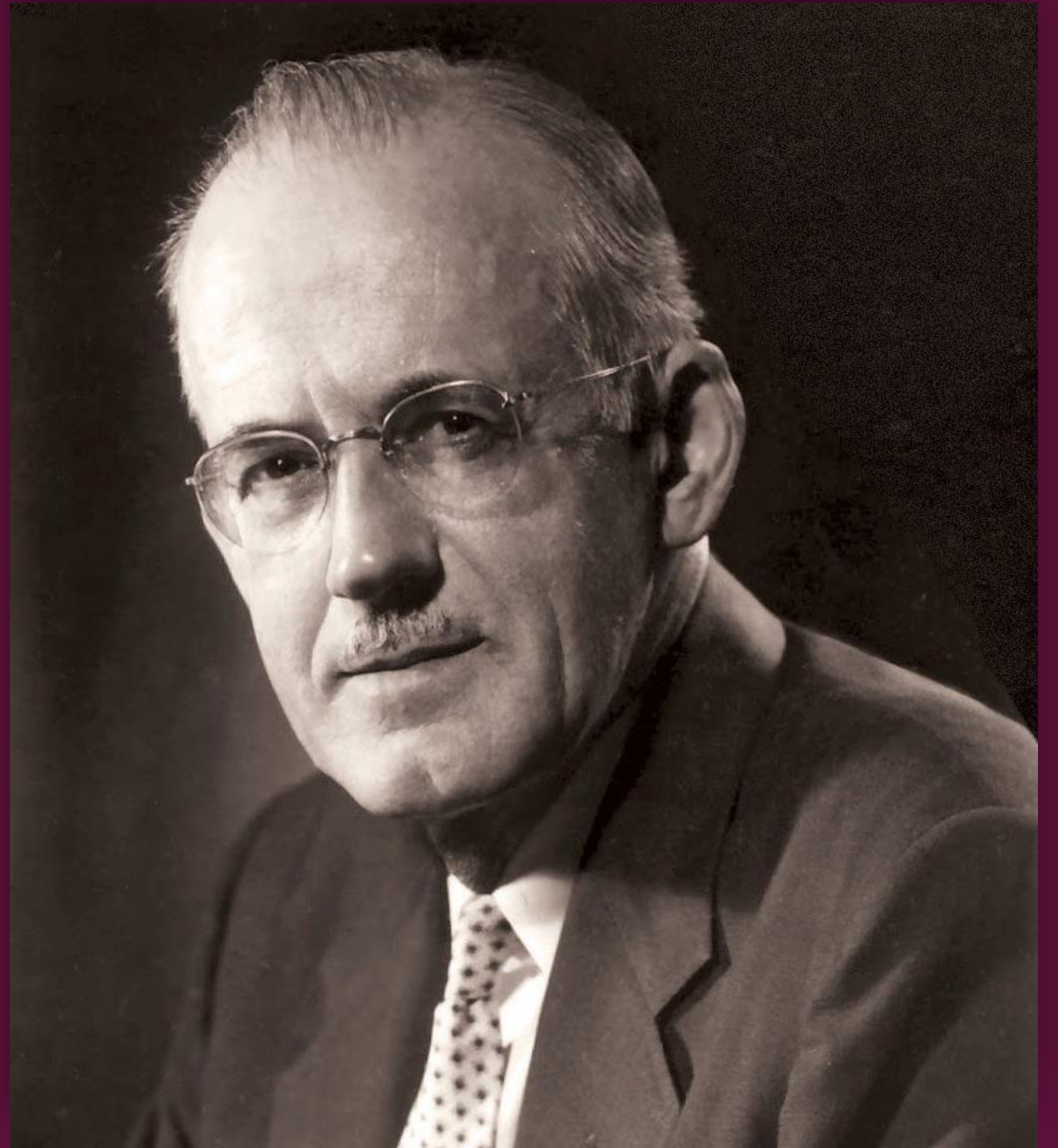


I. The Initial Response of Faith

(vs. 15-16)

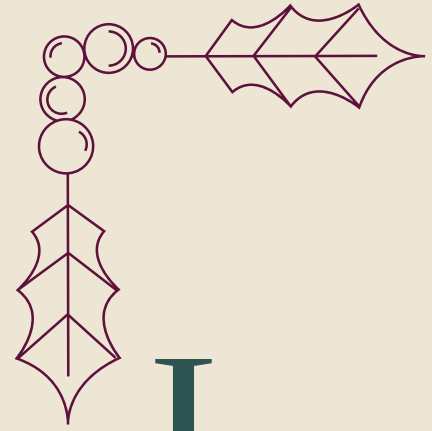


“The Bible recognizes no faith that does not lead to obedience, nor does it recognize any obedience that does not spring from faith. The two are opposite sides of the same coin. The man that believes will obey; failure to obey is convincing proof that there is not true faith present.”



Aiden Wilson (A.W.) Tozer

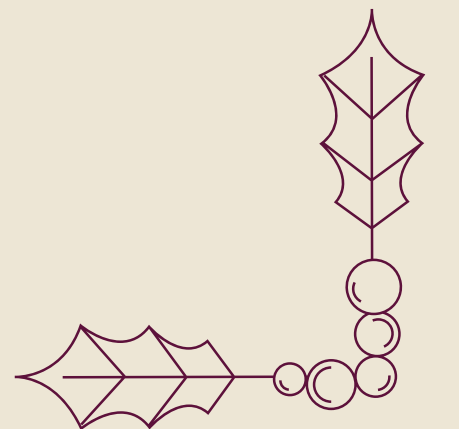
21 Apr 1897 – 12 May 1966



I. The Initial Response of Faith (vs. 15-16)

II. Bearing Witness to Christ (vs. 17-20)

A. From the People (vs. 17-18)

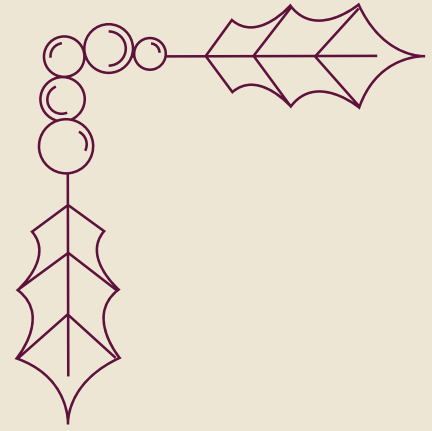




¹ Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!

² Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble

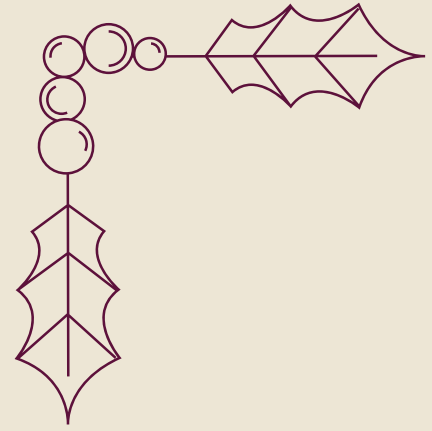
Psalm 107:1-2



Amazement Is Not Salvation

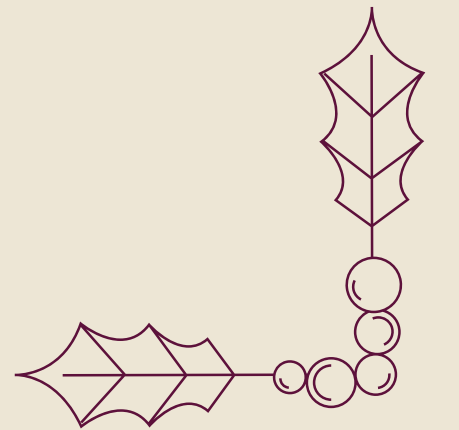
- a. When Jesus healed a mute and exorcised a demon within him, people were amazed but didn't believe. (Matt 12:22)
- b. When Pilate heard Jesus' boldness to speak the truth, he was amazed, but Pilate didn't get saved. (Matt 27:14; Mark 15:5)

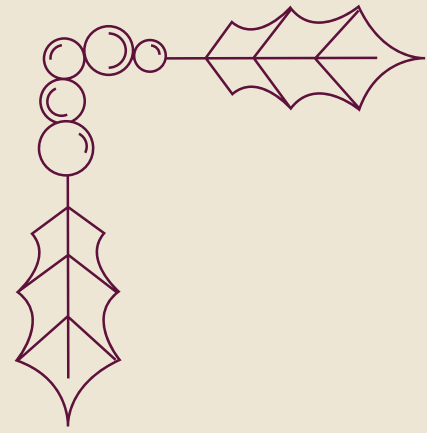




Amazement Is Not Salvation

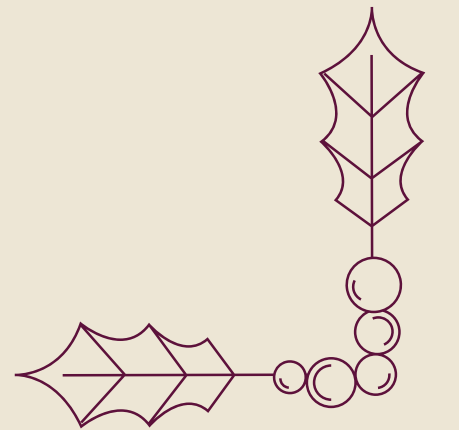
- c. On another occasion, Jesus healed a man from demon possession, but the people gathered to witness it didn't put their faith in Him. (Mark 1:27; Luke 4:36)





Amazement Is Not Salvation

d. People would be amazed at Jesus' grasp of the law as a young child, but a revival didn't break out in the Temple when they heard Him. (Luke 2:47)





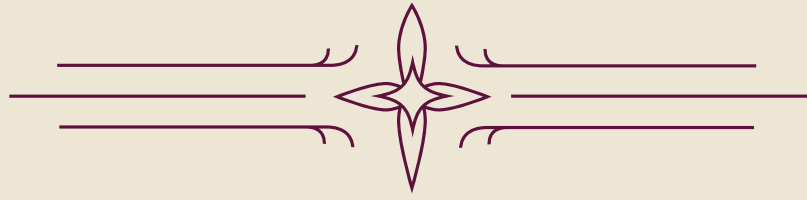
¹⁹ You believe that God is one;

you do well.

Even the demons believe—

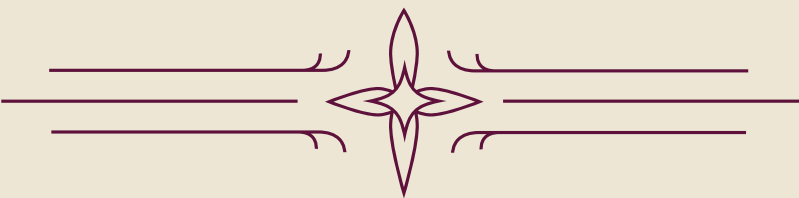
and shudder!

James 2:19



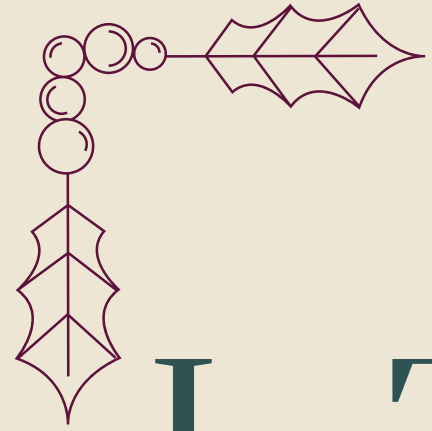
⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Romans 10:9-10



¹⁰ For with the heart one believes
and is justified,
and with the mouth
one confesses and is saved.

Romans 10:9-10

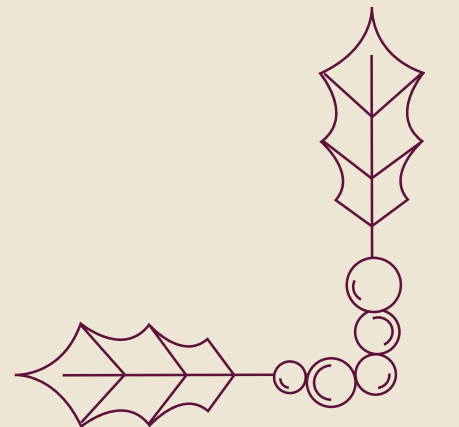


I. The Initial Response of Faith (vs. 15-16)

II. Bearing Witness to Christ (vs. 17-20)

A. From the People (vs. 17-18)

B. From Mary (vs. 19-20)



“We catch a glimpse of the
depth of Mary’s character.
It was calm and deep,
spiritually receptive,
strong, steady
and
preserving in Grace.”



Richard Charles Henry (R.C.H.) Lenski
14 Sept 1864 – 14 Aug 1936