



Hug~In~A~Mug DECEMBER 2022 ~ Vol. 80

Sharing the JOY!

For the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, whereof ye heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel (Colossians 1:5, KJV);

Advent Greetings dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ!

Early here in Paul's Epistle, I dwelt on this brief, fragmented verse, to realize just how much it encapsulates the giving of a God, who loved us so very much, as to give his only Son, a babe in a manger. Hope, beyond our imagination, in the words of the gospel is Grace and Truth.

And look at who and the ways in which they **heard!** Joseph heard the angel telling him to take a wife. On the day of Christ's birth, the angel's proclamations in the skies were heard by the shepherds in their fields at night.

And the three Wisemen, on their journeys from afar, were told by Herod to seek Him out, and they heard in a dream from God, and therefore re-routed into their own country another way. Matt. 2:12.

Here we are then in the season of Advent: {Advent is Latin for: ad + venire; come/arrive} And we are able to glorify Him, **sharing the JOY**. Can we ever get enough of this "greatest story ever told?"...from the Nativity of Christ to His Ascension? We have opportunity to share ADVENT with those around us, as we gather for LWML breakfasts, in our small devotion groups, surround ourselves with loved ones and family, the closer it gets to Christmas Eve, when, for many, the halls will fill with orchestras, instruments, choirs great and small...and we shall be filled with the wonder of familiar hymns and songs put to memory.

And we shall bask in the words of the nativity of Christ
as described in the gospels of Luke and Matthew.

Closing and continuing with some thoughts in Col. 1: 11-12:
May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might,
for all endurance and patience; with JOY, giving thanks to the Father,
who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Joy-full-Y-Yours! Pat Reck, *Hug~In~A~Mug* Author