



Wishing you a Joyful Christmas Season!

The angel told the shepherds, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy, that will be for all the people."

For 400 years, the Lord was silent toward Israel because of their rebellion. Then the fulness of time came when God began speaking again, bringing to pass all the prophecies that had been made regarding the Savior He would send. Imagine the shepherds hearing from God's angel some of the very first words spoken from God to His people in so long! As they ran to see baby Jesus, and then to share the news that the Savior was **going to come**, their hearts must have nearly burst from the joy of knowing that God **had a plan**. How joyful our hearts can be today, knowing that the Savior **came** and that we can **know the plan**. Thanks be to God for His great gift of salvation!

Just a quick update: We have finished the many tests wanted by the cardiologist and neurologist, and they have all been negative. Praise the Lord! The downside is that we still don't know what has caused the health issues. We've recently done some new bloodwork to see if anything new has shown up since March that needs follow-up. It does appear likely that the flashing in my eyes was "silent" migraine - aura without the following pain. (The kind to have if you're going to have them)! That has largely gone away - just a random few blinks here and there. It has been 6 weeks since I've had an incident of the extreme lightheadedness. The Lord has also been very gracious to provide all that is necessary to cover the large deductible that was before me. Thank you all so much for praying and for caring!

We look ahead now to Winter Retreats! There are several types of retreats - take a look at our website while you're "here" - maybe there's one you'd like to try. :) There's still room!

My deepest thanks to those of you who pray for me, or give to my support on a regular basis. You are answers to prayer, and give such encouragement. I hope you realize that you are a part of the ministry at Barakel, and have a great impact here because you are on my team! May the Lord richly bless you for blessing me!

Merry Christmas!