

Monday Matters December 22, 2014

IN THE STILL OF THE NIGHT

A little over two years we left the big city for a life in the country. We wanted a bit of land and a place to have a couple of horses. After having searched dozens and dozens of small farms we settled for a 10 acre plot of land alongside a babbling creek. There are no street lights, no traffic, and no air traffic overhead. It is totally quiet except for a coyote howling way off in the distance.

Shortly after moving in Linda called me outside on a cold, cloudless night and told me to look into the heavens. I looked up and in that total darkness I saw what seemed



to be tens of thousands of stars as bright as bright can be. It was an amazing sight, seeing these lights everywhere I looked. It is a sight that I will never forget.

Two thousand years ago there was a similar night in a place with no street lights, absolutely no cars racing down the road and not a plane overhead. It was there in Bethlehem that a star, much brighter than any star ever seen, shone above a barn. Inside the barn were Joseph, Mary and a newborn baby boy. That star over Bethlehem pointed to the place that would guide the shepherds to come and worship the newborn King, the Messiah, Jesus.

We will celebrate that birth in a few days. We call it Christmas. Today people are still at the malls or searching Amazon looking for presents to give, baking cookies, and decorating the Christmas tree. The real meaning of this season sometimes gets lost in all this hustle and bustle.

I received an email this past week and it simply stated: "Everybody is looking for gifts under the tree. That is not lasting. Let us embrace Him, the precious gift on the tree for eternal life." Let us reflect on these words of wisdom.

We want to thank all of you who faithfully read Monday Matters each week. Over the past three years of sharing Monday Matters we have heard from many of you. We truly appreciate your comments.



Silent Night - Pentatonix

Remember, those presents you unwrap will not last forever but the gift of God, Jesus, will last forever to those choosing to accept His gift.



Linda and Ron



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