



Peace in the Nativity Story

- Peace is a widely bandied-about word at Christmastime.
- But the “real” world we see in the news is anything but peaceful.
- The world Jesus was born into was also troubled.
- Reassurance from an angel.



Almost *Peace* *Altogether*



The Major Players

- Zechariah (Luke 1:5-25)
- Mary (Luke 1:26-38)
- Joseph (Matthew 1:18-25)
- The Shepherds (Luke 2: 8-20)
- Herod (Matthew 2-1-16)



Almost

Peace

Altogether





Anger is a roadblock to peace

- Martin Luther King urged us to turn our anger into something productive.
- Awareness
- Acceptance
- Action



Almost *Peace* *Altogether*





Achieving Altogether Peace

- Do good
- The peace only Jesus can give
- Shalom



Almost *Peace* *Altogether*





Paul's path to peace: Eph 4:25-32

- Speak truth
- Watch your anger
- Don't steal
- Practice empathy
- Watch your language
- Guard your heart
- Be kind, compassionate and forgiving



Almost *Peace* *Altogether*





Final takeaways

- An almost peace comes when we merely go through the paces.
- An altogether peace comes when we allow ourselves to be instruments of God.



Almost *Peace* *Altogether*





“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

- History of the hymn
- Sung by Vince Gill and his daughter Jenny



Almost *Peace* *Altogether*





Almost *Peace* *Altogether*