



Peace At Last Ministries

Sharing God's comfort with the terminally-ill, their loved ones and caregivers.

eGlimpse #178 — December 2019
Paul & Kathleen Humphreys

Last year at this time, a renaissance-style nativity scene on a Christmas card sent me scurrying to the Internet to learn what I could about its source. I found out that the picture was part of a much larger 16th century masterpiece by Italian artist, Lorenzo Lotto. Today, his painting hangs in a museum in Brescia, Italy.

Translated into English, the work's title, "The Adoration of the Shepherds," is a biblical reference to Luke 2:15 where herdsmen in the Judean hills outside Bethlehem had just experienced the shock of a lifetime—an encounter with an angel!

The divine messenger had breaking news! The angel announced,

"...there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:11

After the shepherds got over their initial shock, they,

"...said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us. And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger."" Luke 2:15



Lotto's painting captures the shepherd's first encounter with their Savior. But the image on the Christmas card only showed a small part of it—the most significant part!

Similar to a movie producer who frames a desired scene for the benefit of his audience, the greeting card zeroed in on two little hands cradling the head of a lamb.

The scene is bittersweet; sweet, because it celebrates the *birth* of Jesus; bitter because it anticipates his *death*. The infant's hands, soon to be pierced by cruel nails, embrace the *saving* purpose for which they were sent.

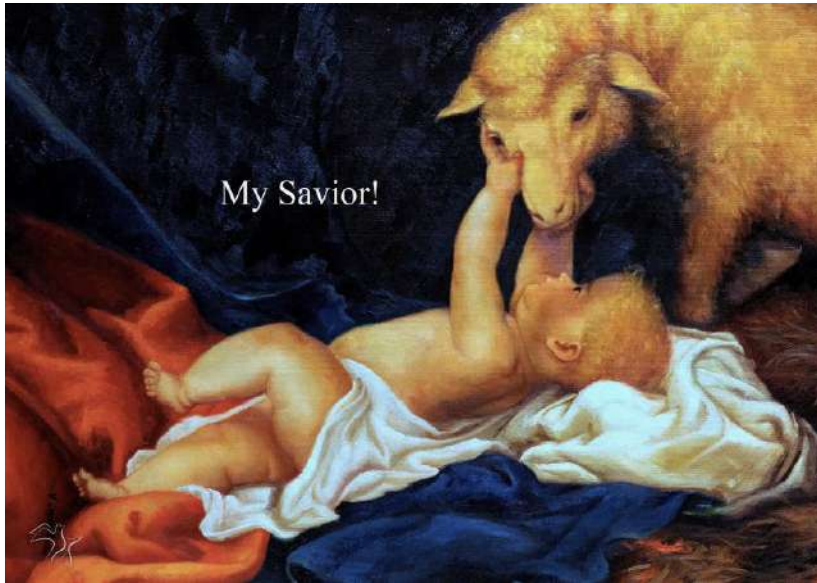
On the cross, Jesus would indeed "*save His people from their sins.*" His was the *final* sacrifice, the *last* offering. Peace with God was made for us by,

"...the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." 1 Peter 1:19

Over several months, a gifted artist recreated this scene for us; an original and vibrant painting with incredible detail.

Now you know the backstory to the PALM Poster titled,

My Savior!



Like the shepherds long ago the poster, with its message on the reverse, provides an encounter with the Savior and with His saving mission.

It has already been used of God to help terminally-ill patients and their loved ones understand the true meaning and significance of Christmas.

To download, print and laminate your own copies at no cost, go to 'Resources' at:

www.palministries.net

Kathleen and I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your prayers and financial support this past year. We now look forward to all God will accomplish in 2020, this by His enabling and grace. And we invite you to journey with us in sharing God's comfort with the terminally-ill, their loved ones and caregivers. Have a blessed Christmas!

Yours to make our Savior known,

Peace At Last Ministries (PALM)

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