The Little Drummer Boy Ruins Everything…

* Christmas celebrations…
	+ Christians – Different levels of celebrating
		- Some don’t observe at all
		- No authority to observe Christ’s birth, but obviously His birth is important
		- Can be helpful to look at the details of Jesus’ birth at a time the world is focused on it
* What is the “worst” Christmas song? For me, it’s “The Little Drummer Boy”…
	+ So slow and repetitive, it is torture
	+ Lyrics/story is total fabrication
	+ Who lets a kid bang on a drum when an infant is trying to sleep?
	+ Ox and lamb kept time?
* “The Little Drummer Boy” is a microcosm of adding to what we have in Scripture
	+ Lk. 2:1-20
	+ Mt. 1:18 – 2:18
		- No mention of date, but unlikely 12-25 (Lk. 2:8)
		- No mention of what animals, if any, were near manger (Lk. 2:7)
		- No account of how many wise men attended (Mt. 2:1)
		- Unclear exactly when wise men arrived, but unlikely at birth (Mt. 2:11)
		- No command to observe celebration of birth
* “I have no gift to bring” so I’ll bring what I have…
	+ No preparation (Mt. 25:1-13)
	+ Similar to Cain’s offering (Gen. 4:3-5)
	+ God expects our all (Mt. 13:44-46; 23:23-28)
* Plenty of areas in life for creativity—but let’s refrain from adding to or subtracting from God’s word (Deut. 4:2; Rev. 22:18)
	+ Applies to holiday celebrations of Christmas, but not just there
	+ How we are saved
	+ How the church is organized
	+ What work the church performs
	+ Speak where Bible speaks…
	+ For the world, it is much more comforting to see Jesus as the babe in the manger instead of the one who died for our sins and judges manking.