



“Ordinary People in God’s Extraordinary Plan”

INTRODUCTION

Israel had endured 400 years of silence from Malachi. At this time, there were no prophets, no angelic visits, no Scriptures added. Suddenly, God breaks the silence with angelic messengers – first to Zacharias, then Mary, Joseph, and shepherds.

The people God chose were...

Not **ROYALTY**...

Not **PRIESTS**...

Not **SCHOLARS**...

Not **POLITICAL** leaders...

But a poor virgin, a humble carpenter, and lowly shepherds. This reveals one of the great themes of the Christmas story:

God delights in using ordinary, humble people in His extraordinary plan.

1. Mary – The Willing Servant (Luke 1:26–38)

- ✓ A humble virgin from Nazareth, chosen by God.
- ✓ “Highly favoured” (vs 28) – of all the possible choices...
- ✓ Her response: “Behold the handmaid of the Lord...” (vs 38).

Comparing Scriptures:

Psalm 25:9; James 4:6; 1 Samuel 1; 1 Corinthians 1:26–29.

Applications:

- God delights in using the **HUMBLE**.
- God uses those who are **AVAILABLE**.
- Submission to God begins with trust in His Word.

2. Joseph – The Obedient Protector (Matthew 1:18–25)

- ✓ A “just man” (vs 19) – righteous and merciful.
- ✓ Faced a crisis with grace.
- ✓ Obeyed God without hesitation (vs 24).

Comparing Scriptures:

Proverbs 3:5–6; James 1:22; Genesis 6:22.

Applications:

- Obedience may be **COSTLY** but is always right.
- Spiritual leadership begins with simple obedience.

3. The Shepherds – Joyful Witnesses (Luke 2:8–20)

- ✓ Socially despised yet chosen for the first public announcement.
- ✓ Good news preached: “Good tidings of great joy” (vs 10).
- ✓ Their response: They hurried, saw, believed, proclaimed, and worshipped.

Comparing Scriptures:

Acts 4:20; 1 John 1:1–3.

Applications:

- God uses the **UNEXPECTED**.
- Joy in Christ’s promise and fulfillment produces a faithful witness.

Summary

God uses ordinary people who trust Him, obey Him, and testify of Him.

The first Christmas reminds us that God’s greatest works often begin in humble places with humble people surrendered to His will.