

DISCIPLE'S QUEST

If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine.

John 8:31



December 31, 2023

The Celebration

Luke 2:13-20

Main Idea:

After the angel announced the Savior's birth to the shepherds, a multitude of the heavenly host appeared in the night sky praising God. After their departure back into heaven, the shepherds set out to search for the Christ child. Finding Him in a manger just as the angels had told them, the shepherds heralded His birth and returned to their work joyously praising God.

Outline:

- The praise of the heavenly host

- The reason for the angels' praise: peace among men with whom God is pleased

- The faithful response of the shepherds:
 - they believed

 - they proclaimed

 - they worshiped

Questions for further contemplation and application after the message:

#1 What significance do you find in the fact that God first announced the birth of His son to a seemingly ordinary band of unnamed shepherds?

#2 In the message, Pastor Vaughn suggested that Christ's birth was most likely announced to the shepherds because they were faithful men living life in the anticipation of His coming. Do you agree? Why or why not?

Is it important for believers today to live faithfully in the anticipation of Christ's return?

What does that entail?

#3 For whom would Christ's arrival bring peace?

How?

#4 Reflecting on the actions of the shepherds in v.v. 15-16, how would you characterize their faith?

#5 What is the difference between merely marveling at Jesus and believing in Him for salvation?

#6 What do you think inspired the shepherds to worship as they did in v. 20?