

SHEPHERDS AND WISE MEN
Luke 2:8-20 and Matthew 2:1-12

❖ The Shepherds and Wise Men were very different.

- The shepherds were COMMON JEWS NOT EXPECTING God to show up.
- The wise men were PRIVILEGED PERSIANS LOOKING for a sign.

❖ The Shepherds and Wise Men had similar experiences at Christmas.

- They were both INVITED by God to come to JESUS. (Luke 2:8-12 and Matthew 2:1-2)

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Luke 2:8-12 (NIV)

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem ² and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2 (NIV)

- They both WORSHIPPED GOD for what they saw. (Luke 2:20 and Matthew 2:10-11)

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Luke 2:20 (NIV)

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. ¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Matthew 2:10-11 (NIV)

- They both returned HOME. (Luke 2:20 and Matthew 2:12)

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Luke 2:20 (NIV)

And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

Matthew 2:12 (NIV)

❖ No matter who you are, you are INVITED to come WORSHIP Christ at Christmas, and go HOME a new person.