



Journeys of Christmas: Shepherds

Luke 2:8-20



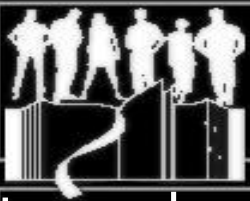
Luke 2:8-20

Luk 2:8 In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; 11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 "This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby



Luke 2:8-20

wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." 15 When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." 16 So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and



Luke 2:8-20

Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. 17 When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds. 19 But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

God's Interrupts us at Work

- Flocks in the fields March/April-September (8)
- Some distance from Bethlehem
- Israel's grazing land is mountains and deserts
- The angelic announcement
- A Savior is born!

Encountering God Demands Response!

- Seek the Christ child!
- A dangerous journey at night required
- Who watched the sheep? Likely cost!
- When God speaks to us how do we respond?
- Run to His call or run away?

Searching for Christ

- Hurry- *spyoo-do*—speed, haste, await eagerly
- Journey in the dark would take time
- Searching all the stalls of Bethlehem takes time
- Shepherd were not exactly highly thought of
- Their search would have caused a stir
- By the end, Bethlehem knew they sought Christ
- Does your town know that you seek Him too?

Sharing their Experience

- Mary Joseph and child are found!
- They share all they had seen and heard
- All who hear are amazed
- From men who could not testify in court!
- Mary treasured all these things in her heart

*“The gospel is self-propagating. Wherever it
—makes a convert it makes a preacher. Have we
made known abroad what we ourselves have
experienced of the power and love of Christ?
Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets!
We want more than the formal sermon. We
need the simple personal testimony of every
believing heart.” (J. Parker, D. D.)*