

The Christmas STORY



The Shepherds

And the Lamb of God



Who were these shepherds?

- **Common shepherds?** If so, these men would be hardworking men who had a negative reputation in society.
- **Sacrificial Shepherds?** If so, these men were in charge of watching over the flock that were used in Temple sacrifices.

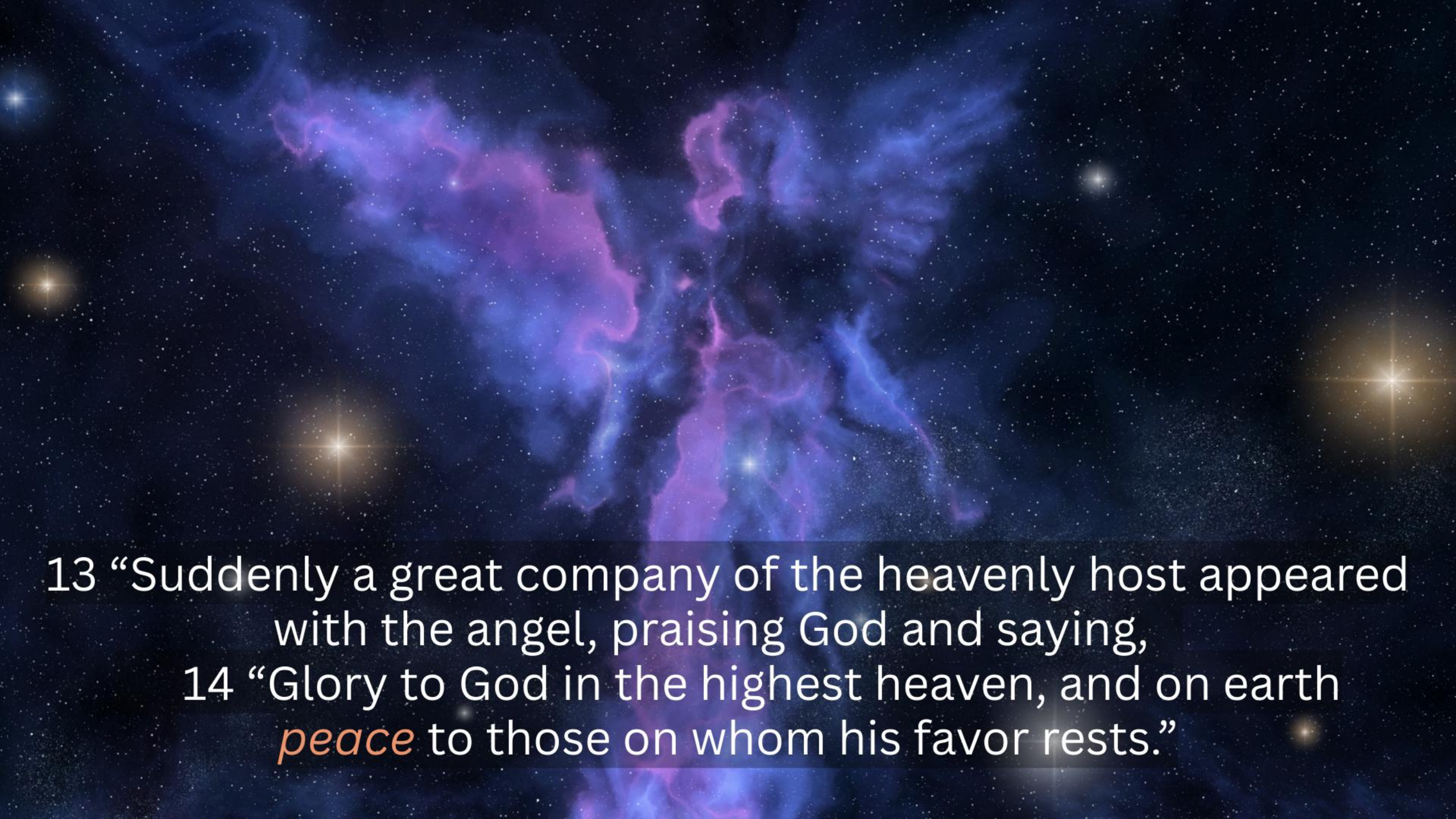


Luke 2:8 “And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news** that 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.”



Jesus is God

- Immanuel= God is with us
- Jesus = Save people from their sins
- The Son of God = Divine
- **Savior** = from sin
- **Christ** - Messiah the anointed one
- **Lord** - YHWH - "I AM WHO I AM"



13 “Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared
with the angel, praising God and saying,
14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth
peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

15 “When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “**Let’s go to Bethlehem** and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” 16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they **spread the word** concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.”



The Shepherds

- They were obedient and responded to the message of God's Word by going to Bethlehem
- They were different after meeting Jesus
- They returned to their work and shared the good news
- They returned glorifying and praising God

19 “But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.”

Jesus The Good Shepherd

- The Lord is my Shepherd (Psalm 23)
- He knows us by name and lays down his life (John 10: 14-15)
- His sheep know his voice and follow him (John 10:27)
- He gives his sheep eternal life and no one can snatch them out of his hands (John 10:28)
- He goes after the one and leaves the ninety-nine (Luke 15:4)
- He is the Shepherd and overseer of our souls (1 Peter 2:25)



Questions to consider

1. Have you placed your faith in the Lamb of God?
2. Have you told others?
3. Is Jesus the Shepherd of your soul? Are you learning to follow Him?