

The Glory Of The LORD – Luke 2:8-20.

1. (8-14) The Glory of the Lord.

“Interrupting this quiet, dark night was the shining presence of an angel and the glory of the Lord.”

“We had in Matthew an account of the notice given of the arrival of this ambassador, this prince from heaven, to the wise men, who were Gentiles, by a star; here we are told of the notice given of it to the shepherds, who were Jews, by an angel: to each God chose to speak in the language they were most conversant with.” Matthew Henry.

“After the single angel’s announcement, a whole group of angels appeared. This was a **heavenly host** (a band of soldiers) that proclaimed peace.”

Exodus 24:17 - *The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.*

2 Chronicles 7:3 - *When all the children of Israel saw how the fire came down, and the glory of the LORD on the temple, they bowed their faces to the ground on the pavement, and worshiped and praised the LORD, saying: “For He is good, For His mercy endures forever.*

Psalms 138:4-5 - *All the kings of the earth shall praise You, O LORD, When they hear the words of Your mouth. Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the LORD, For great is the glory of the LORD.*

Isaiah 60:1 - *Arise, shine; For your light has come!
And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.*

John 1:14 - *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

2. (15-16) Let Us Now.

“These shepherds do not speak doubtfully, “Let us go see whether it be so or no;” but with assurance, *Let us go see this thing which is come to pass; for what room was left to doubt of it, when the Lord had thus made it known to them?* The word spoken by angels was steadfast and unquestionably true.”

“This shows a genuine urgency. They didn’t hesitate at all.”

The angel told them to look for *a Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger* (**Luke 2:12**). It wasn't an unusual *sign* to see a baby *wrapped in swaddling clothes*, but it was strange to see a baby *lying in a manger* – a feeding trough. If the angel had not told them to look for such a specific sign, they would never have believed it.

The combination of the angelic announcement and the sign of a child in a feeding trough inspired the shepherds to tell as many as they could of what they heard and experienced.

The shepherd's good news amazed all who heard it. Even if they didn't really understand it, they recognized that something significant had happened.

“Mary had good reason to meditate. What brought her to Bethlehem? A Roman emperor's great decree and perhaps gossiping tongues in Nazareth. God works through all kinds of people and all kinds of events to accomplish His plan.”

The shepherds had such happiness and praise to God because *the word was fulfilled just as it was told them*.

Psalm 95:1 - *Oh come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.*

Psalm 95:6 - *Oh come, let us worship and bow down; Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.*

Romans 13:12 - *The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.*

1Thessalonians 5:6 - *Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober.*