Thursday, December 22, 2022



# "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night... And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord." -Luke 2:8,10,11

From age to age the prophecy of the long awaited Christ was finally revealed. Who would be the first to hear this great news? Would it be royalty? Would it be the priests? Would it be the wealthy? This revelation of Christ's birth was given to the most unlikely group of people imagined - shepherds!

Shepherds lived in isolation out in the fields with their dirty sheep. This was considered a lowly profession in their society. However, by the grace of God, these shepherds were given the first revelation of the birth of Christ into the world. If you read Luke chapter 2 you will find that once they heard the message these shepherds did not let anything hinder them from seeking the Christ who was revealed as Lord. Yes, after this great revelation these shepherds left their job

in search of the Lord. This is a great example for those who claim the name of Christ but they are just "too busy" to read His word and worship with His people. Sadly, many professing Christians today have a "But-faith." "But my job." "But my family." "But my friends." Then they go on to say, "BUT-I have faith!" How does God or anyone really know? These shepherds heard the message of Christ the Lord and did not allow for distractions. These shepherds dropped everything in order to seek the Savior. Obviously these common folk were captivated by the revelation of the Christ.

# The Christ revealed

Are you?

Has God revealed His Son to you? Do you embrace the Son of God as Christ your Lord, or do you just see Him as only a cute Christmas story? These simple shepherds took the heavenly revelation that they heard, and sought after the One who could provide a complete salvation. A salvation that sets us free – free from sin, free from Satan, free from shame and guilt, as well as the liberty to love and be loved by God. Now you see why the shepherds "returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen." This is the "grace

and gratitude" dynamic that is found all throughout the scriptures when a sinner is set free. This is the theme: God in grace goes to the lost and needy sinner and he or she becomes a recipient of His sovereign grace unto salvation and is set free. Then, as a result of God's grace, the freed-spirit expresses back to God gratitude in the form of glorifying and praising Him, as did the shepherds. You see, a freed-spirit is overwhelmed with the revelation of Christ the Lord. Are you free?

> David C. Hale, pastor Email: insights@gmx.com



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