

# Glory in the Highest to God; upon Earth, Peace among Men

Luke 2:8-20

It was a quiet night. A handful of Israeli shepherds were doing what shepherds did at nighttime – keeping an eye on their sheep and goats, making sure no wolves were sneaking up quietly. They kept a small fire flickering. One of them was seated on a rock, nodding his head, desperately trying to keep from falling asleep.

Suddenly, a startling apparition stood before them, almost blinding them with his brilliance! He was a messenger from God Himself. The shepherds were absolutely terrified!

But the messenger told them, “Stop being fearful, for look! – I bring good news to you causing great joy which shall be to all the people! – because there was born to you today a Savior who is Messiah the Lord in the city of David!”

He continued, “And this shall be for you a sign – you will find the baby having been swathed and lying in a feeding trough.”

And suddenly, there appeared, along with the messenger, a multitude of soldiers from heaven, praising God and saying,

“Glory in highest places to God  
And upon earth peace among men, with whom God is well-pleased!”

And it came about when the messengers had departed from them into heaven, the shepherds kept saying to one another, “By all means, let us go to Bethlehem and check out this thing that has come about – which the Lord has made known to us!”

So they jogged quickly and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a feeding trough. And when they had seen this, they informed them about the prediction which had been spoken to them about this newborn. And all who heard were astounded by the things told them by the shepherds.

Now Mary preserved in her memory all these sayings, analyzing them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen just as it had been told them.

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