

Christmas 2021 - The Shepherds - Witness of His Birth

I Bring You Good Tidings of Great Joy for All People

[slide] Luk 2:8-18 ESV And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, ***I bring you good news of great joy*** that will be ***for all the people***.

[slide] 11 ***For*** unto you is born this day in the city of David a ***Savior***, who is ***Christ the Lord***. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was 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 those with whom he is pleased!"

- **Savior** - call him Jesus - He will **save us from our sin** - Mat 1:21-23
- **Christ** -He is the long awaited Messiah -To deliver, heal & set free - **the Anointed One**
- **LORD** - Immanuel "**God with Us**" - Mat 1:21-23

The Shepherds Were the Witnesses And Told Others What the Saw and Heard

15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "***Let us go over to Bethlehem and see*** this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. 17 And ***when they saw it, they made known the saying*** that had been told them concerning this child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

Jesus Had Many Witnesses

Himself and His Father

- Joh 8:17-18 ESV In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true. 18 I am the one who bears witness ***about myself***, and ***the Father who sent me bears witness*** about me."

John the Baptist

- Joh 5:33 ESV You sent to **John**, and **he has borne witness to the truth**.

His Works

- Joh 5:36 But **the testimony that I have is greater than that of John**. For the works that the Father has given me to accomplish, the very works that I am doing, bear witness about me that the Father has sent me.

Jesus Continues to Have Many Witnesses

The Scriptures

- Joh 5:39 You search **the Scriptures** because you think that in them you have eternal life; and **it is they that bear witness about me**, 40 yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.

The Holy Spirit

- Joh 15:26 ESV "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, **he will bear witness about me**.

Signs and Wonders

- Act 14:3 ESV [*Paul and Barnabas*] So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, **who bore witness** to the word of his grace, **granting signs and wonders** to be done by their hands.

US

- Act 1:8 ESV But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and **you will be my witnesses** in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

(PASS OUT WORKSHEETS)

- As a NOUN - we, by our life become evidence and testimony of the reality of Jesus
- As a VERB - the we too, must be willing to take the witness stand for Jesus

We are Runners - Carrying the Same Message - "your God Reigns"

Isa 52:7 ESV How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings **good news**, who publishes **peace**, who brings good news of **happiness**, who publishes salvation, who says to Zion, "***Your God reigns.***"

- A prophesy after Jerusalem was destroyed and carried into Babylon...in our dark days the message is the same --- Our God Reigns - He reigns in my life (noun witness) and I want to tell you (verb witness)