

**LUKE 2:8-18**



**FINDING MY WAY  
TO THE MANGER**

# 1. WHY SEND A MESSENGER UNLESS THE MESSAGE WAS IMPORTANT?

- A. IN-PERSON ANGEL: ZECHARIAH, MARY, SHEPHERDS, JOSEPH (DREAM)
- B. STARS AND SCIENCE: MAGI – MEN OF SCIENCE
- C. AFTER RESURRECTION - THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- D. TODAY - THE “CALLED”

## 2. WHY “SIGN HIS NAME” UNLESS HIS IDENTITY MATTERED?

- Mic. 5:2 BUT YOU, O BETHLEHEM EPHRATHAH, WHO ARE TOO LITTLE TO BE AMONG THE CLANS OF JUDAH, FROM YOU SHALL COME FORTH FOR ME ONE WHO IS TO BE RULER IN ISRAEL, WHOSE COMING FORTH IS FROM OF OLD, FROM ANCIENT DAYS. (ESV)

**3. WHY SPEAK IN “STORY” UNLESS HE WANTS TO CONNECT?**

**A. MARY TREE.**

**B. BETHLEHEM TREE.**

**C. SHEPHERDS TREE.**

**D. ANGEL TREE.**

**E. MAGI TREE.**

**F. CROSS TREE.**

**G. LIFE – RESURRECTION TREE.**

# 4. WHY INVITE “BAD” MEN UNLESS THE STORY COULD CHANGE THEM?





# THE “PERSONAL DEMONS” IN THE MINDS OF SHEPHERDS.

- LAWS OF COMMERCE. RELIGIOUS LAW PROHIBITED THE PURCHASE OF WOOL, MILK OR KIDS FROM SHEPHERDS IN OPEN FIELDS.
- LAWS OF TESTIMONY. THE TESTIMONY OF A SHEPHERD WAS NOT ADMISSIBLE AS EVIDENCE IN A COURT CASE OF ANY KIND.
- LAWS OF WORSHIP. SHEPHERDS WERE NOT ALLOWED TO WORSHIP WITHOUT FIRST BEING RITUALLY “WASHED AND CLEANSED” BY RABBIS.
- *JOACHIM JEREMIAS – JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF JESUS.*

- **JN. 10:11-12 I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD. THE GOOD SHEPHERD LAYS DOWN HIS LIFE FOR THE SHEEP. <sup>12</sup> HE WHO IS A HIRED HAND AND NOT A SHEPHERD, WHO DOES NOT OWN THE SHEEP, SEES THE WOLF COMING AND LEAVES THE SHEEP AND FLEES, AND THE WOLF SNATCHES THEM AND SCATTERS THEM. (ESV)**



# BAD MEN CHANGED TO GOOD IMPACT OTHERS FOR CHRIST.

- LK. 2:18 AND ALL WHO HEARD IT WONDERED AT WHAT THE SHEPHERDS TOLD THEM.
- LK. 2:20 AND THE SHEPHERDS RETURNED, GLORIFYING AND PRAISING GOD FOR ALL THEY HAD HEARD AND SEEN, AS IT HAD BEEN TOLD THEM.

## 5. WHY “WORKING SHEPHERDS” UNLESS HE IS WORTH MORE?

- Lk. 2:15-16 WHEN THE ANGELS HAD GONE AWAY FROM THEM INTO HEAVEN, THE SHEPHERDS *BEGAN SAYING TO ONE ANOTHER, “LET US GO STRAIGHT TO BETHLEHEM THEN, AND SEE THIS THING THAT HAS HAPPENED WHICH THE LORD HAS MADE KNOWN TO US.”*<sup>16</sup> SO THEY CAME IN A HURRY AND FOUND THEIR WAY TO MARY AND JOSEPH, AND THE BABY AS HE LAY IN THE MANGER.

## 6. WHY A SEARCH UNLESS WE MUST DO THE SAME?

- Lk. 2:15-16 WHEN THE ANGELS HAD GONE AWAY FROM THEM INTO HEAVEN, THE SHEPHERDS *BEGAN* SAYING TO ONE ANOTHER, "LET US GO STRAIGHT TO BETHLEHEM THEN, AND SEE THIS THING THAT HAS HAPPENED WHICH THE LORD HAS MADE KNOWN TO US." <sup>16</sup> SO THEY CAME IN A HURRY AND FOUND THEIR WAY TO MARY AND JOSEPH, AND THE BABY AS HE LAY IN THE MANGER. (NAU)

# APPLICATIONS

1. DO YOU HAVE SOME “DEMONS” TO DENY SO YOU CAN BEGIN YOUR SEARCH?
2. DO YOU NEED TO COME IN THE MIDST OF A BUSY LIFE, JUST AS YOU ARE?
3. WHAT IF YOU LAID ASIDE YOUR DOUBTS AND JUST STARTED YOUR SEARCH? LET GOD FIND YOU!