

Do you see what the angel is saying?
“Look, He’s really here. He’s finally come to you.”

Thousands of years after the garden meltdown,
seven hundred years after Isaiah told us:

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. Isaiah 9:6,7

Notes:



Luke 2:8-20
How Should We Respond to the Birth of Jesus?

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. *This is God’s Word*

I. Do as the Shepherds and Mary Did.

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

**How do we hear the message of God?
And how should we respond?**

First, *don't miss the ordinariness of how God's Word comes.*

Yes the shepherds got the supernatural visitation.
However the rest of humanity gets the shepherds.

Second, *what did Mary do?*

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. vs. 19

ponder- to put in context. "How does this fit in with what I know?"
treasure- has to do with the heart. It means to relish or savor a thing.

We're told she ponders the meaning
but she fans the flame in her heart.

God's revelation comes by ordinary reading: Keep doing it.

Drifting is a constant temptation: Resist it.

Share what you're seeing and hearing: By treasuring it.

II. Be a Peacemaker.

"Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men and women on whom His favor rests." Luke 2: 13,14

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10

We were at war with God before Christ came into our lives.

...people become enemies of God when they are controlled by their human nature;
Romans 8:7

III. Never Live in Fear Again.

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid.

Luke 2:9,10

We cannot abide with God's glory in our presence.

(Isaiah) said, "Mourn for me; I'm ruined! I'm a man with unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips. Yet I've seen the king, the Lord of heavenly forces!"
Isaiah 6:5

This is all over the Bible in every instance where God shows up.
Sinners cannot stand in God's presence, but the angel says,
"I have the solution."

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:11

If God is for us, who can ever be against us? ³² Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? ³³ Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. ³⁴ Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us. ³⁵ Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? ... No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. ³⁸ And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,^[p] neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. ³⁹ No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 8:31-35; 37-39