The Case For Christmas

WHY Did Shepherds Participate In The Savior's Birth?

Luke 2:8-20

When the Savior was <u>Born</u>, WHO received the <u>Invitation</u> to Greet Him?

Emperors, Priests & Prophets & Military Generals?

WHO were the First <u>Human</u> Visitors? That Honor was <u>Reserved</u> for the <u>LOWEST</u> of Low.

Could there be a More Suitable <u>Proclaimer</u> for the <u>LAMB</u> of God than a <u>Shepherd</u>?

1. THESE SHEPHERDS <u>RECEIVED</u> THE MESSAGE. (vv.8-11)

- GOD had Sent many Human saviors, THIS was a Savior from Heaven!
- It Was A Message Of A <u>HELPLESS</u> Savior. (v.12)
- It Was A Message Of A HUMBLE Savior. (v.12b, 2 Corinthians 8:9)
- It Was A Message Of A <u>HEAVENLY</u> Savior. (Philippians 2:6-8)

2. THESE SHEPHERDS <u>RESPONDED</u> TO THE MESSAGE (vv.15-16)

- "When you <u>Receive</u> a Message from God <u>DO</u> IT!"
- WHO were the FIRST People to <u>Receive</u> <u>Christ</u> as their <u>SAVIOR</u>?
- Believing is NOT <u>Hearing</u>...Believing is <u>Responding</u> to What you <u>Hear</u>!

3. THESE SHEPHERDS <u>RETOLD</u> THE MESSAGE (v.17)

- They told <u>EVERYBODY</u>!
- After Their Encounter with Jesus, their <u>LIVES</u> would <u>Never be the SAME</u>!
- Being a "<u>Witness</u>" is NOT just <u>Experiencing</u> Jesus, it's "Telling" Somebody HOW He's <u>Affected</u> your Life.
- <u>Like</u> these Shepherds, Let's "<u>RETELL</u>" the story OFTEN.

4. THESE SHEPHERDS <u>REJOICED</u> AT THE MESSAGE. (v.20)

- The <u>World can't Explain a Message of Love, Redemption, & Hope Wrapped up in a Baby Born</u> in Bethlehem.
- Jesus CAME as GOD HIMSELF, Clothed in a Robe of Human Flesh.
- The <u>World's Disbelief</u> & Retail <u>Corruption</u> of Christmas has Almost <u>Ruined</u> that <u>Picture</u>.
- It's NOT enough to <u>HEAR</u> About It, <u>KNOW</u> About It & Even <u>RECEIVE</u> the Message Of Christmas...YOU HAVE TO <u>RESPOND</u> TO IT!