

19/12/10 (pm)

The Shepherds' Journey

Luke 2:8-20

Theme: The journey to salvation begins with a revelation about the Saviour followed by seeking, finding and embracing the Saviour.

The incident involving the
shepherds is a picture of a journey
we are all urged to take.

The Beginning of the Journey – Shepherds given Great News (2:9-14)

Shepherds were in the fields
protecting their flocks.

Who would be interested in them?
They were social outcasts.

But an angel of the Lord appeared and
glory shone around the shepherds!

They were terrified but were given a
glorious message (2:10-12).

The despised shepherds' journey to Bethlehem began with a revelation from God.

This is how God deals with anyone in bringing them to salvation. *Cf.* John 6:44.

Is He doing that to you?

The Shepherds Sought the Saviour (2:15)

The shepherds wanted to find the
Saviour.

This should be the natural reaction to
news that there is a Saviour!

*If you know Jesus is the Saviour but are
not seeking Him you are grieving the
Spirit!*

*Persistence in this can lead to the
unpardonable sin!*

The Shepherds Found the Saviour (2:16-19)

The shepherds had to cover some distance to reach Bethlehem.

They found the Saviour just as the angels said.

Is that your experience?

*After seeking the Saviour have you
found Him?*

*The search may have been strenuous,
long and difficult but you found Him!*

Are you still earnestly seeking?

*If you seek Him you will find Him, cf.
Jeremiah 29:13; John 6:37.*

The Shepherds Rejoiced in the Saviour (2:17, 20)

They became the first Christian evangelists!

- They spread the news by word of mouth (2:17).
- They *went back* glorifying and praising God (2:20).

These were signs that they had been born again.

We must be like them!

- We must testify to the Saviour through the witness of our words, *cf.* Acts 8:4-5.
- We must testify to the Saviour as we go about our normal business, *cf.* Colossians 1:10.

Conclusion – Where are you, 21st Century Shepherd?

We are all metaphorical 21st century shepherds.

We live on the field that is the world and it is spiritually cold and dark but God has revealed to us Good News!

*Have you sought and found the
Saviour?*

*Are you seeking Jesus? Don't stay on
the hillside!*

Seek Him and you will find Him!