

Table Talk:

1. If the shepherds represent the “common man” of Jesus day, who would be their modern day counterparts? Who would Jesus come to today?
2. Jesus is described as Savior, Christ and Lord. How does each of these roles make a difference in your life?
3. Why did the Jewish nation “miss” seeing Jesus as the Messiah?
4. What do you think Mary was “pondering”?
5. Of the 5 responses to Jesus, which do you find yourself relating to the most? Why?



Part 2: Press Conference or Praise Rally?

Luke 2:8-20

December 21, 2008

If you were going to write a “press release” about Jesus’ birth, what would you say? Who would you go to first? Who would get the exclusive interview? Our text this morning surprises us! Jesus’ birth announcement was anything but conventional! We see 5 different responses. How would you have responded if you had been there?

I. The Facts

A. The Presence of Shepherds (v. 8)

⁸In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night

B. The Proclamation by the Angel (v. 9-12)

⁹And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; ¹¹for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²“This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

1. The Annunciation

2. The descriptions of Jesus ...

- Savior:
- Christ:
- Lord:

C. The Praise of the Heavenly Host (v. 13-14)

¹³And suddenly there appeared 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 men with whom He is pleased."

D. The Pursuit by the Shepherds (v. 15-18)

¹⁵When 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." ¹⁶So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds.

1. The shepherd's experience illustrates the process of the Christian life.

2. The shepherds were the ...

E. The Pondering by Mary (v. 19-20)

¹⁹But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

II. Our Focus... 5 responses to Jesus today!

A. Are you **fearful** of Him? (v. 10)

B. Are you **praising** Him? (v. 13)

C. Are you **curious** about Him? (v. 16-17)

D. Are you **surprised** by Him? (v. 18)

E. Are you **treasuring** Him? (v. 19)