

The first good news to the Shepherds

3rd December 2017

Luke 2:8-21,

In today's text, we can find that God decided to make a statement about who would receive the good news first. The angel of the Lord was sent to the shepherds. The good news first went to the Shepherds who were out in the fields rather than to the chief priests, teachers of the laws or Pharisees who were influential people in the society. The shepherds were chosen by God to be the first to receive the good news (vs 9-12).

What happened to the Shepherds? See verses 15 & 16; ***"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." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger."*** They responded to the message with haste, and rushed to Bethlehem to find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. The shepherds found what they were looking for: Jesus. They met his mom and dad and looked at the baby Jesus—just as they had been told. What the shepherds experienced that first Christmas night was the good news of an arrival, the first advent that revealed a long-awaited Messiah had been born just over the hills in Bethlehem.

When the shepherds told these things to Mary and the others who they came into contact with, it put them in the position of being the first evangelists in the history of the world. They were ordinary people with an extraordinary message of good news. It is true that the reason how we could be here today is because of the shepherds who had started to share this good news with all they came in contact with. So... how would you respond to the good news of Jesus Christ? How would you react on what God wants you to do in terms of sharing the good news of the Christmas child? Would you do all actions like the Shepherds who shared it with people around them in this season of Christmas?