



LUKE 2:8-16 TPT

Verse 8 That night, in a field near Bethlehem, there were shepherds watching over their flocks.

- **Watching:** Guarding, watch like a prisoner. Same word used when referring

Verse 9 Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared in radiant splendor before them, lighting up the field with the blazing glory of God, and the shepherds were terrified!

- **LESSON:** Sometimes we can't see God coming with an answer to our situation. The situation seems so bad and our natural eyes like the shepherd can't see the answer. But it is coming and could come suddenly.

Verse 10 But the angel reassured them, saying, "Don't be afraid. For I have come to bring you good **news**, the most **joyous** news the world has ever heard! And it is for **everyone everywhere!**"

Verse 11 For today in Bethlehem a rescuer was born for you. He is the Lord Yahweh, the Messiah. 12 You will recognize him by this miracle sign: You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a feeding trough!"

- A RESCUER is born.
- I am glad Jesus wasn't just a great philosopher, leader or Idea
- He was born to be a rescuer to help people in the real world

Verse 13-14 Then all at once, a vast number of glorious angels appeared, the very armies of heaven! And they all praised God, singing: "Glory to God in the highest realms of heaven! For there is peace and a good hope given to the sons of men."

- **LESSON:** Sometimes we need some Reassurance or AFFIRMING OF WHAT we are doing in life.

15 When the choir of angels disappeared back to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go! Let's hurry and find this Word that is born in Bethlehem and see for ourselves what the Lord has revealed to us."

16 -17 So they ran into the village and found their way to Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in a feeding trough. Upon seeing this miraculous sign, the shepherds recounted what had just happened.

18-19 Everyone who heard the shepherds' story was astonished by what they were told. But Mary treasured all these things in her heart and often pondered what they meant.

Closing

"When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas
begins: to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart."

— **Howard Thurman**