

Christmas Day 2022
The Shepherds
Luke 2:8-20

I. Intro

- A. I seem to relate to the Shepherds in the Christmas story
- B. Working, minding their business, and God sends angels to intervene.
- C. They were going about their business, and God interrupted their life!

II. Text

- A. Verse 8: Working men doing work
- B. Verses 9-14:
 - 1. The Angel Speaks, and all of heaven erupts in praise
 - 2. The moment they had been waiting for, the moment of proclamation of God's truth.
- C. Verses 15-16:
 - 1. They have a conversation with Mary and Joseph
 - 2. And now everyone was more amazed!
 - 3. Mary and Joseph now knew that what they had been told, was going to be told to others, and they were in the center of the most amazing moment in history.
- D. Verses 17-20: The Shepherds GLORIFIED and PRAISED GOD

III. Points

- A. The Shepherds were SHOCKED
 - 1. An encounter with God is overwhelming to the senses
 - 2. God delivered His message through he supernatural means that was only possible with Him, to working men out doing the overnight shift.
 - 3. They were not seekers, they were not readying themselves, They were interrupted
 - 4. God has the authority to interrupt!
 - 5. How do you respond when God interrupts?
 - a) Anger
 - b) Irritation
 - c) Joy
 - d) Excitement
 - e) Probably all these
 - 6. Don't get so goal oriented that you miss the joy of the DIVINE INTERRUPTION!
 - a) Divine Interruptions are special moments when God speaks and directs so clearly that you can no longer ignore
 - b) Divine Interruptions are only Interrupting our plans, and that is ok.
- B. The Shepherds were OBSERVERS
 - 1. We really don't see or know how the shepherds responded to this.
 - 2. We don't know how excited, or irritated they were, just that they were shocked.
 - 3. They observed a scene that completely enveloped their senses, and are terrified.
 - 4. They were not out in the fields seeking a moment with the Lord, but that is exactly what they got.
 - a) The encounter was beyond their desires or plans
 - b) The encounter was completely within God's plan!
 - 5. We are also Observers in life regarding God's plan:
 - a) He reveals His plan to us
 - b) We observe His plan, His work
 - c) We observe His majesty and Glory
 - d) We observe, and are drawn into the work!
 - 6. The Shepherds:
 - a) Began oblivious
 - b) Brought in to understanding
 - c) Sent out in Mission
 - 7. Observers turn into missionaries by the power of God!

C. The Shepherds were OBEDIENT

1. They were then sent to discover
2. They were then convinced in fulfillment of the plan, as it was found just as the Angel had said.
3. They were then left in wonder and amazement of this miraculous plan and beauty.
4. What started off as a regular night for the Shepherds, turned into a supernatural encounter.
5. The Supernatural encounter then sent them on a mission of discovery.
6. The mission of discovery caused them to praise God and marvel at His plan.
7. The Shepherds may have started the evening as working men, but they finished the day as the first worshippers of the Lord Jesus Christ!
8. The Shepherds may have been busy with their tasks, but they practiced immediate obedience and fulfilled the will of the Lord.
9. The Shepherds life was interrupted, they were obedient, and we can relate!

IV. Close

- A. Have you allowed your life to be interrupted by Holy God?
- B. Did that produce a walk of Obedience?
- C. Are you continuing in that walk of FAITH and OBEDIENCE today?