

Christmas Eve ~ Wednesday, December 24, 2025

“The Light has Come”

Isaiah 9:1-7 & Luke 2:1-20

Revelation #1: _____.

Luke’s telling of the birth of Jesus is shockingly _____. No dramatic buildup. No royal _____.

“In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered.” (Luke 2:1-3)

While Caesar was moving people around like chess pieces, God was, in fact, working _____ the scenes, moving him and history with quiet precision, as part of a much bigger _____.

God uses the _____ machinery of world politics to accomplish His _____ purpose.

4 TRUTHS ABOUT HOW GOD WORKS IN THE ORDINARY

• **God is _____ over all the things, even those things we consider _____.**

The _____—the defining moment of human history—comes wrapped in the ordinary. We sometimes think spiritual growth only happens in the _____ moments: worship services, retreats, sacred seasons. Although these things matter, the God of Christmas is also the God of chores, jobs, commutes, appointments, and family responsibilities, who meets us in the stable of _____ life.

• **God often hides His greatest work in _____ places.**

This is God’s style. He chooses _____ things. He shows up in _____ places. His light often begins as a _____ before it becomes a blaze.

• **God’s faithfulness is _____, even when life feels _____.**

We can imagine the journey for Mary and Joseph (on foot) wasn’t _____. The same Lord who hung the stars in place, guided and _____ a tired couple along a dusty road, making sure every prophecy would be _____ right on time.

And yet, the message of this text is simple and steady: Even when life feels ordinary or _____, God is still at _____. His plans aren’t fragile. His promises aren’t _____. His timing isn’t _____.

• **The Light of Christ often dawns _____ before it shines _____.** Many people missed the _____ of Jesus’ birth because it came so quietly. But that’s exactly how God loves to work: light slowly pushing back darkness, morning slowly breaking into night. Similarly, the light of Christ in our lives often begins _____.

The stable reminds us that God doesn’t need grand _____. He builds His kingdom in small rooms, hidden corners, and open _____—even ours. God isn’t intimidated by the ordinary. He isn’t hindered by _____.

Sometimes the light of Christ breaks into our lives not through _____ visions, but through the small, quiet, unexpected spaces where we least _____ Him.

Revelation #2: _____.

“In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.” (Luke 2:8)

In verse 8 the scene suddenly shifts from the quiet, hidden stable in Bethlehem to fields just outside the town, a place as ordinary and _____ as you can imagine.

He chooses shepherds, men with dirt under their fingernails and the smell of the fields on their clothes. In that culture, shepherds were considered unimportant, uneducated, even _____ witnesses in court.

God invites them to witness the most special moment in history. This is pure _____.

This is the _____ kingdom Jesus would later preach. God’s announcement bypasses the _____ and the polished, and the Light first shines not on the mighty, but on the _____.

“Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people; to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.’” (Luke 2:9-11)

The shepherds were literally surrounded by _____. The same _____ that filled the tabernacle and the temple now explodes on the hillside.

For centuries Israel associated God’s presence with _____: holy places, sacred places, carefully protected places. However, now God’s glory breaks out in an open field, not confined to walls or rituals, illustrating that the Light has come for

_____, everywhere.

The angelic message reveals the _____ of Christmas, cutting straight to the centre of the _____:

“Do not be afraid.” – Good thing they said that—the shepherds were probably seconds away from _____.

“I bring you good news...” – Not advice. Not _____. Not a to-do list. But good news about something _____ has done.

“...of great joy...” – Not mild joy. Not polite joy. Great joy—the kind that breaks _____, lifts heads, and warms cold _____.

“...for all people.” – Shepherds. Villagers. Outsiders. _____. Sinners. You. Me. _____.

“Today in the city of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.” This child isn’t just a _____. He isn’t a legend. He isn’t an optional seasonal _____.

He is Saviour: the One who _____.

He is Christ: the promised _____ foretold by Isaiah.

He is Lord: the divine King, God in the _____.

Isaiah’s ancient promise, spoken over 750 years before, finally and fully stands _____ right there under a Bethlehem sky.

Christmas is first and foremost about God’s _____: His faithfulness, mercy, and unstoppable love. And it’s also about God’s _____: peace, shalom, wholeness, reconciliation with Him.

The shepherds remind us of God’s surprising _____ today and everyday. The first people to hear about Jesus’ birth weren’t kings or scholars, but _____ people. This is good news for us. If God’s light came to shepherds, it can come to anyone: to the humble, the tired, the overwhelmed, the ashamed, the unnoticed. It can come to those who feel spiritually unprepared or _____. It can come to those who didn’t expect to meet God tonight. It can come to you and it can come to me.

Christmas Eve is a reminder that God’s light seeks out the _____ and the overlooked; and His _____ can find us right where we’re at.

Revelation #3: _____.

“When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.’ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.”

Up to this point in the story, the shepherds have been passive _____ of God’s revelation. However, now the narrative shifts to human _____.

Response #1. _____.

They dropped everything—because when light breaks into darkness, nothing is more important. That _____ is a beautiful picture of _____. Faith isn’t just believing truths, it’s _____. It’s stepping toward Jesus. It’s responding to God’s invitation the moment it comes.

They can’t keep quiet. The first _____ in the New Testament are shepherds, ordinary men whose hearts _____ with what they’d seen and heard.

_____ becomes the natural overflow of encountering Jesus. And the shepherds remind us that the proper response to Christ’s coming involves movement, _____, and praise.

Response #2. _____.

If the shepherds represent active, outward faith, Mary represents _____, inward faith. She holds the mystery close. She doesn’t run into the streets, she quietly absorbs what God has done. She _____. She savours. She prays. She wonders.

Both responses belong in _____ life. Some of us are wired like the shepherds—quick to speak, act, and share. And some are wired like Mary—careful observers, deep reflectors. Both are _____. Both are worship. Both are welcome at the _____.

Whether we’re like Mary or the shepherds, what’s important is that we respond because Christmas calls for a _____ from all of us. Nobody in Luke 2 encounters the Light and stays _____.

Christmas isn’t simply a story we admire from a _____. It’s a call to respond—a call to welcome the Saviour into the very _____ of our lives. The Light has come, but light only helps if it’s _____.