

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 \_\_\_\_\_.