
THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Verses. #1-#5 - “Who would think that paying taxes would turn out to be a good thing? But it was. See: Micah 2:2

1). GOD TAKES OUR CIRCUMSTANCES AND TURNS THEM INTO GOOD. (Romans 8:28)

Note: Joseph was obedient in spite of his very pregnant wife. What excuses do you have to delay God’s blessing? He wants to bless you. Partial obedience is still disobedience. (I Samuel 15:22 & 23). God desires total obedience and total surrender. Our delays to obey can also delay the open doors God wants to broaden in our lives.

Verses: #6 & #7 .

2). SHUT DOORS FROM SATAN ARE NEVER A PROBLEM WITH GOD. NO ROOM! God has room to bless you. Your blessings do not come from man, but from God. Do you have “any room” for Jesus? (Rev. 3:20)

Verses: #7-#17 .

3). The Shepherds were doing their normal job, working as shepherds. Faithfulness in unseen situations is important. No fanfare. No big deal. No lights or action on most typical days, unless it’d be a dangerous animal or robber. The shepherds faithfulness was rewarded. (I Cor. 4:2)

Verses: #10-#12.

Instructions to the shepherds. God will instruct and direct our steps as we stay true and faithful to Him. (Prov. 3:5 & 6 / Psalms 32:8 / John 16:13). Don’t try to manufacture the voice or presence of God. Just be faithful in life. Worship and obey Him by studying His Word and staying in daily prayer and service unto Him.

Verses: #18-#20.

4). People were puzzled. Mary pondered. The shepherds praised God.

(#18) Not everyone saw what the shepherds saw. Some of these who heard “wondered”. Aren’t folks indecisive today? We need to go all the way believing God exists
and can do anything.

(#19) “Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.” Sometimes, we just need to keep our mouth tightly shut. Speaking prematurely can negatively affect our circumstances. God’s timing and our mouth often go hand in hand. (I Thess. 5:18 / Job 1:22 / Psalms 19:14 / Prov. 18:21)

Finally, the shepherds believed as they heard and saw. They were simple people with simple faith. John 20:21-31.

Verse #29 -” ....blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.” (John 20:29)

Notice #17-” they made known abroad…” The shepherds wasted no time being proclamers of the good news. They believed. They broadcasted. There’s a time to talk and there’s a time to be quiet. Ecc. 3:7. Let’s be wise to keep silent when negative, critical words want to flow. Open wide your mouth when the truth needs to be proclaimed. Keep it shut when complaining wants to arise out from your heart and mouth. Phil. 2:14. CELEBRATE THE CHRISTMAS JOY THIS YEAR !!!!!!

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