

12/24/2017

## “Intersection of Heaven & Earth”

Scripture: Luke 2:8-20

Sermon Series: “Signs of the Season”

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*The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.”*  
**Luke 2:10**

As we continue our Advent/Christmas message series this year on Signs of the Season, our sign for today is “**Intersection**”. As the angel declared to the simple shepherds outside of Bethlehem, the anointed Messiah, or Christ, was born. He would bring salvation to his, and all, people.

† **We don’t know the names of the shepherds who first witnessed the coming of the Messiah, or Christ -- Jesus**

Nevertheless, God knew them and sent angels to them to reveal the good news of his birth.

What is it about the shepherd and his story that stands out to you the most that you can perhaps relate to?

The shepherd portrayed in our monolog this morning shared that she, at times, wondered why she couldn’t have been something else other than a simply, lowly shepherd.

Do you sometimes wonder or wish you could be something, somebody or somewhere else? Why is that so?

You might very well someday, just as he raised David to become king of Judea and Israel and Jesus to be king of heaven and earth. God has a plan and purpose for you, including being here this very day.

And if those shepherds that heard the wonderful news of Christ’s birth were someone or something else, they would not have been there in that time and place – at the intersection of heaven and earth – to see and hear the angels proclaim Christ’s birth. God knows each of us, and all are significant to God and his plan.

† **The shepherds went with excitement to see the Savior for themselves**

And even more marvelous than just seeing and hearing angels from heaven, they went as instructed to Bethlehem. There they witnessed and experienced for themselves -- at the intersection of heaven and earth – the Son of God, who had come down from heaven, born as a human child upon this earth. They told Mary and Joseph of their earlier encounter with the angels. Then the shepherds returned to their hillside and community.

† **The shepherds shared the good news with joy, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen**

How about you? Have you experienced the intersection of heaven and earth for yourself? Have you seen, heard or felt God's presence? Perhaps you've even encountered angels.

And most wonderful of all, perhaps you've encountered Jesus himself! If so, how do you feel and think about it? And how you have expressed it to others? Let others know of the most wonderful gift of all this Christmas.

May God bless you this day. And may you realize God's wonderful presence in those times and places where heaven meets earth in your life!

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**Questions for reflection:**

1. What is it about the shepherd and his story that stands out to you the most that you can perhaps relate to?
2. Do you sometimes wonder or wish you could be something, somebody or somewhere else?
3. Have you experienced the intersection of heaven and earth for yourself? If so, how do you feel and think about it, and how have expressed it to others?