The Real Story of CHRIST'S Incarnational

Part 8 God Kept His Promise

If I were to tell you that God keeps His promises, what is the first doubt that pops into your head? Do you know how to identify the differences between a specific promise from God and your own expectations?

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire.



(This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.)



All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census.



And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee.

He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.

And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born.

She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep.

Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified,

but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people.

The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!

And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger."

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those on whom God's favor rests."

When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

Luke 2:16They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.

After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child.

All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished,

Lule 2:19but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often.

The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.

Eight days later, when the baby was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel even before he was conceived.

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The Shepherds

- Low social status.
- Smelled like animals and nature.
- They were essential to society because they provided food and sacrifices for others.
- Isolated from most of society.
- Unable to keep most of the holy days.

The Shepherd's Life

The realities are sheep bite, they run amok, they get diseases, they wander into trouble, and they are targeted by predators of all kinds all the time. Sheep and shepherds are also subjected to weather conditions that could lead to many of them getting hurt through no fault of their own.

The Shepherd's Life

Shepherds are also less than perfect. They can get angry, desert their posts, or neglect their responsibilities. Instead of leading their sheep, sometimes they drive them hard, lash out at them, yell at them, and even hit a few with their staffs. Their lives were filled with isolation and hardships.

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Principle #1

The angel's announcement of the Messiah's arrival to the shepherds first displays God's commitment to the simple, the humble, the lowly, and the forgotten.



God often displays His amazing, limitless love for humanity by choosing to meet us, walk with us, and reveal His goodness to us where we are and as we are.

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New revelations of who God is, what He is like, and what He is doing are dependent on you being receptive to God being active in your life.

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Principle #4

A life that is driven by busyness, hurriedness, and distractedness will often prevent us from seeing and receiving the miracles of God in real time.

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Genuine praise that is freely and appropriately given to God exponentially benefits the soul of the one who is offering it and creates divine opportunities for those who hear it.

They Praised God

- Elizabeth
- Mary
- Zechariah
- The angel and the hosts of Heaven
- The shepherds
- Simeon the prophet
- Anna the prophetess



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The supernatural activities and miracles that God graces us with are not meant to be private moments just for us; they are meant to be shared with others for God's honor, glory, and praise.

As God faithfully guides us through various trials, crossroads, and decisions; and as He delivers us from various sins, pains, sufferings, and brokenness we need to allow others to come close, so they can experience God's goodness too.

We need to learn to assume the faithful posture of consistently inviting, speaking, and sharing with others how God has radically transformed our lives.



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