

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. **2** (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) **3** And everyone went to their own town to register.

4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. **5** He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. **6** While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, **7** and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. **9** An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. **10** But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. **11** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. **12** This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. **17** When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, **18** and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. **20** The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Vv. 2-6 The context

- Chapter 1 of Luke
 - Super natural proclamation
 - Submission from Mary and Joseph
- Humble state (v. 6)

Vv. 8-12

- Shepherds keeping watch (8)
- Angel of the Lord (9)
- Today (11)
 - Substance born in town of Bethlehem "Town of David"
 - Savior (and John 4:42)
- What will be a "sign" for them? (12)

Vv. 13-15

- The proper way to respond to God's power (14)
- Respond

Vv. 16-20

- Found him and spread the word (17)
- Treasured them (19)
- Shepherds first witness (20)

Additional Notes

James Series (Starts Dec 28)	Bible Studies	Events
James (The Art of Christian Living) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Testing and Joy (1:1-11)- Temptation Works vs. Gospel Works (1:12-18)- Talking Gospel & Listening to God (1:19-27)- Playing Church & Favorites (2:1-13)- Faith Works (2:14-26)- The Spiritual Disciple of Watching Your Mouth (3:1-18)- The Spiritual Discipline of fighting well (4:1-12)- The Spiritual Discipline of not loving wealth (4:13-5:6)- The Spiritual Discipline of Suffering well (5:7-12)- Fearless Healing Prayer (5:13-20)	<p>Wed. Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Break for Christmas and New Years.- Starts back Jan. 7 @ 7pm <p>Sun (Dec. 28)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Preaching series covering the Book of James Begins <p>Sun (Jan. 18)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- New Member Class/Church Covenant Class (all welcome)- After Church- With Rev. Chestnut & Rev. Dennis <p>Stay up on Studies and Resources https://www.redemption-church.net/</p>	<p>Alpha Bible Study (In-person)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dec. 20, 22, 27- Saturdays 5-7:00 pm- At Soden home <p>Sun (Jan. 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Congregational Meeting (After Church) <p>Sunday (Jan. 25)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fellowship Sunday- Visiting a Church Plant <p>https://www.ethnoshouston.org/</p> <p>Sundays - 10:15 am</p> <p>Ashford Elementary School 1815 Shannon Valley Dr. Houston, TX 77077</p>

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