

December 20, 2020

## Family Christmas: The Shepherds

The greatest family story ever told, is the one about our Savior Jesus Christ. His genealogy is traced all the way back to Abraham (**Mtt 1:1**). In fact, **our genealogy** goes all the way back to Abraham!

**Gal 3:29** *And if you are Christ's, then **you are Abraham's seed**, and heirs according to the promise.*

We are part of the greatest family story ever told! Wow!

**Luke 1:26-38** *Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the **house of David**.*

Joseph was of the genealogy or blood line of King David.

*The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"*

*29 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.*

### Gabriel prophesies to Mary

*31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus.*

God partnered with Adam and Eve in the beginning of creation...and the partnership continues today. The Kingdom of God is a "family business." God's desire is to give us the Kingdom of God.

**Luke 12:32** *"Do not fear, **little flock**, for it is your Father's good pleasure to **give you the kingdom**."*-Jesus

What is the Kingdom of God? The rule and reign of Jesus Christ.

### Gabriel continues prophesying:

*32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the **Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David**.*

*33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of **His kingdom** there will be no end."*

*34 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"*

*35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The **Holy Spirit will come upon you**, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37 **For with God nothing will be impossible.**"*

*38 Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me **according to your word**." And the angel departed from her.*

**Glory in the Highest Luke 2:8-20 READ**

The Holy Spirit came to Mary and prophesied life into her womb. He placed the seed of the Word of God into her womb. Jesus is called The Word of God (**Rev 19:13**).

The same thing happens to us when we say "Yes" to God the same way Mary did. God wants to put His new life into us! The same way the Holy Spirit put the Word of God into Mary; the Holy Spirit wants to the Word of God into us. This is Christ in us! We become One with the Savior of the World. One with the Kingdom of God.

**John 3:3-7** *Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is **born again**, he cannot see the **kingdom of God**." 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?"*

*5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of **water and the Spirit**, he cannot enter the **kingdom of God**. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'*

Are you part of the family of God? Are you born again? I Jesus your Lord and Savior? Is Jesus living in you?