

## Abiding & Abounding in Hope

A Series of Studies To Prepare For The Holiday Season 2023

### ***Witnessing The Worship & Wonder Of The Shepherds: Evidence of How Hope Inhabits Our Hearts!***

Luke 2:1–20

- The most significant birth in history!!!!
- The most majestic birth announcement in all history —to shepherds??
- The fulfillment of hope that very few people recognized at the time!

#### ***Why were shepherds the first people who were told about Jesus' birth?***

① A vivid portrait of God's ..... {Luke 2:1–7}

—A Roman census

—A registration in Bethlehem

—A right time for a royal birth

—A room in a stable

② A vivid display of God's ..... {Luke 2:8–14}

—Shepherds on the ***night watch***

—Shepherds on the ***bright watch***

—This was the night when all ***glory broke loose!***

③ God's glory ..... {Luke 2:15–20}

—Too excited to work

—The need to see first hand & experience the moment

—Hurry up and ***DON'T*** wait!

—Which search engine would work best?

—When excitement spills over

—Where your treasure is

—When ya' can't keep quiet!

#### **What Personal Applications & Biblical Truths Can We Take Away From Today's Study?**

—1— God's glory provokes a life changing experience!

—2— When God's truth is revealed to us, we should pay close attention!

—3— God's sovereignty is captivating once we recognize how He has absolute authority to accomplish His plan in a perfect way!

—4— God's ways are unique, & often unexpected! Shepherds????

—5— Christ's birth was intended to bring joy to all people!

—6— Luke 1:78–79; Luke 2:8–11; John 1:6–8; 1 John 1:5–7