



# Peace

## SUDDENLY . . . PEACE!

Luke 2:8-15

“The birth of Christ is the central event in the history of the earth – the very thing the whole story has been about.” — C. S. Lewis

## THE SHEPHERD’S AMAZING NIGHT

### THEY . . .

#1 . . . DIDN’T RUN [8-9]

#2 . . . LISTENED [10-12]

“What He is, you now have access to . . .”

- J.D. Greear, Advent [Right Now Media]

#3 . . . EXPERIENCED WORSHIP [13-14]

#4 . . . PURSUED JESUS [15-16]

## THE MESSAGE OF THE LYRICS [14]

### #1 PEACE

#### Steps to Peace:

[1] Recognize the conflict

*“Peace” means the end of enmity and warfare*

[2] Realize You Can’t Save Yourself

[3] Rest wholly on Jesus’ work on your behalf [John 14:27]

- Keller, Hidden Christmas

#2 PRAISE [Luke 2:29-32]

Glory be to You alone

King who reigns from a manger throne

My life, my praise, everything I own

To Jesus the King on a manger throne

- Manger Throne [Phil Wickham]

■ **Luke 2:8-15** And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

■ <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, “**Fear not, for behold [look], I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.** <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

■ <sup>13</sup> And **SUDDENLY** there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> **Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!**” [gracious kindness rests]

■ <sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

■ **Luke 2:29-32** [Simeon - he has heard/obedient one]

■ “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace [eirene - equivalent to Hebrew shalom], according to your word; <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation

■ <sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

■ <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

■ **John 14:27** Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

### Discussion Questions/Prayer

1. Read Luke 2:8-15. Think about the day you made Jesus Lord of your life. Of the four things the shepherds did in response to the events of their amazing night [angel visit, choir of angels having a concert, verbal directions to Messiah’s manger a few miles away], which one of their responses reminds you the most of the day you made Jesus Lord of your life? Why?
2. Read John 14:27. How is your relationship with fear and peace - the struggle is real? What does Jesus promise to the disciples in the verse tell you about His compassion in this struggle for you?
3. Read Isaiah 41:10. Pray for the strength to resist fear and instead embrace God’s promises in all seasons of life . . . because He has promised to strengthen you, help you, and uphold you with His righteous right hand. Merry Christmas!