

Intro:

Because of our snow today, I am going to give an internet broadcast for a 'virtual service'. Our message will be briefer than our usual sermons, I am afraid.

This morning I took a quick look at the passage in Luke 2 where the birth of Christ occurred and the angels made their announcement to the shepherds.

I'd like to offer a brief meditation based on the recorded reactions to the passage, but first let's read the passage. I'll read this morning from the New American Standard version.

Read Lk 2.1-20

I. Let us go and see

- A. The first reaction to the angels announcement
- B. The possibility of dismissal – the attitude of many
- C. The need of investigation – the obligation of all

II. They made known

- A. Having seen, they spoke
- B. The gospel truly believed cannot be contained by silence

III. The hearers wondered

The process repeats itself – would the hearers investigate for themselves? Would they dismiss the messengers?

IV. Mary treasured

- A. Stupendous things happened to Mary – but had meaning for all mankind
- B. Mary is most likely the source of these records in Luke, after she has come to understand the significance of the events
 - 1. Post-resurrection
 - 2. Post-Pentecost

The memory of these events now are beyond wonder, the shame she may have experienced a small price to pay: the Lord used her to bring salvation to all.

V. The shepherds glorified

- A. The final reaction to Christmas is glorification
- B. Your reactions to Christmas should glorify God
 - 1. By your own investigation of the truth
 - 2. By your own realization of the truth
 - 3. By your own proclamation of the truth
 - 4. By your own treasuring of the truth
 - 5. By your own living of truth