

Luke 2:8-20 (*vv15-20)

Joy Has Come

1. THE EXPLORATION OF THE SHEPHERDS, v15-16a

Luke 2:15-16a (CSB)

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go straight to Bethlehem and see what has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ^{16a} They hurried off....

- a. They were on a *personal* mission
- b. They were on a *prompt* mission

2. THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE SHEPHERDS, vv16-18

Luke 2:16–18 (CSB)

¹⁶ They hurried off and found both Mary and Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ After seeing them, they reported the message they were told about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

- a. The discovery
- b. The destination
- c. The declaration

3. THE EXPOSURE OF THE SHEPHERDS, v20

Luke 2:20 (CSB)

²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had seen and heard, which were just as they had been told.

- **Glorifying God**—*Acknowledging* God for who He is
- **Praising God**—*Admiring* the greatness of God and His work as an act of worship

Christmas is a time of celebration, a time of hope, and a time of joy because JOY HAS COME...in the birth of the Christ.