

Shepherd Discussion

Remember that these monologues are essentially historical fiction, based on the Scripture but filling in plausible subjective details, both emotional responses and motivations. Your first task is to decide if they are reasonable.

Why do you think the Lord chose to give the news to the shepherds that night?

What did they do?

Do you expect that they continued to talk about this for some time to come?

What would Pharisees or Sadducees likely have done with the news?

Do we have a sort of "caste" system in classifying people's importance today?

What is the most common reaction of people who see angels? What do the angels say?

What did the sign of a baby lying in a manger say to them?

What do you imagine the conversation with Mary and Joseph would have been like?

Compare and contrast the way others heard from the LORD or found out about the Messiah and their reaction:

Serpent and Eve – Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Isaiah -- Isaiah 6:1-6 and 53:1-12 "Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?" It was revealed by the LORD with beautiful words.

Micah – Micah 1:1 and 5:2 "The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth."

Zacharias Luke 1:5-25 Visited by Gabriel

Mary – Luke 1:26-38 Visited by Gabriel

Joseph – Matthew 1:18-21 Revealed to him in a Dream

Elisabeth – Luke 1:39 - 56 Her husband saw Gabriel, baby leaped when Mary visited her.

Simeon – Luke 2:21-35 "And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ."

Anna – Luke 2:36-38 "She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day."

Magi – Matthew 2:1-12 They saw a star and understood it.

Herod—Matthew 2:7-8, 16-18 He was told by the Magi.