



Classic CHRISTMAS

When God Comes Near

- Historical Context
- Social Context
- Religious Context

When God Comes Near

Luke 2:8-18

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly, a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

Luke 2:8-18

Look For God At Work

We compartmentalize God

- God box
- Family box
- Sports box
- Recreation box
- Work box

Look For God At Work

Brother Lawrence

The Practice Of The Presence Of God

"The time of business does not differ with me from the time of prayer; and in the noise and clatter of my kitchen, while several persons are at the same time calling for different things, I possess God in as great tranquility as if I were on my knees."

Look For God In Your Worry

vs 10 “fear not”

- God's thoughts toward you are personal

PSM 139:17 *“How precious are our thoughts toward me!”*

- God's thoughts toward you are continuous

PSM 139:18 *“Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.”*

- *God's thoughts toward you are purposeful*

JER 29:11 *“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for your good and not for evil, to give you hope and future.”*

Look For God In Your Worry

“God is too good to be unkind and He is too wise to be mistaken. And when we cannot trace His hand, we must trust His heart.”

Charles Spurgeon

Look For God In Your Worship

“...and when they had seen him...” vs 20

See: *Lit = to see and know, to experience and understand*

- ***Corporate worship***
- ***Private worship***

Today

- *Look for Jesus...perhaps for the very first time*
- *Look for Jesus...maybe for the first time in a long time*
- *Look for Jesus...again...even if you just saw Him*