

Luke 2:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

Analysis

The shepherds' response—"Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass"—demonstrates faith expressed in immediate action. Their words 'which the Lord hath made known unto us' show recognition that the angel's message came from God. They didn't debate whether to go but exhorted each other to immediate obedience. The phrase 'come to pass' indicates their faith that what angels announced has actually occurred. Their willingness to leave flocks unguarded shows the priority of spiritual reality over economic security. This models proper response to divine revelation: immediate, corporate, faith-filled action to investigate and worship what God has revealed.

Historical Context

Shepherds leaving flocks at night risked financial loss and violated occupational responsibility, yet they prioritized seeing what God had done. Their immediate response contrasts with others who would later reject Christ despite greater evidence. Simple shepherds demonstrated faith that educated rulers would lack.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does genuine faith express itself in immediate obedience and action?
2. What does the shepherds' willingness to risk their livelihood teach about priorities?
3. How should we respond when God reveals His work to us?

Interlinear Text

Καὶ γεγονὸς ὡς ἀπῆλθον ἀπ' αὐτῶν εἰς ὁ
And it came to pass as were gone away from them into which
G2532 G1096 G5613 G565 G575 G846 G1519 G3588

οὐρανὸν ὁ ἄγγελοι Καὶ ὁ ἀνθρωποι ὁ ποιμένες
heaven which the angels And which the which shepherds
G3772 G3588 G32 G2532 G3588 G444 G3588 G4166

εἶπον πρὸς ἀλλήλους Διέλθωμεν δὴ ἔως Βηθλέεμ
said to another Let us now even unto Bethlehem
G2036 G4314 G240 G1330 G1211 G2193 G965

Καὶ ἴδωμεν ὁ ῥῆμα τοῦτο ὁ γεγονὸς ὁ ὁ
And see which thing this which it came to pass G3739 which
G2532 G1492 G3588 G4487 G5124 G3588 G1096 G3588

κύριος ἐγνώρισεν ἡμῖν
the Lord hath made known unto us
G2962 G1107 G2254

Additional Cross-References

1 Peter 3:22 (Creation): Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

Psalms 111:2 (References Lord): The works of the LORD are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein.

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