

Unlikely Stars Shepherds

The Bible is filled with unlikely and ordinary people that God uses to bring forth His purpose and plan. Throughout the events of Jesus' birth, everything seems, well, unlikely. Even the shepherds who watched over their flocks that night. Everything was ordinary until the sky lit up and a host of angels appeared. So why shepherds?

Some Interesting Facts about Shepherds – Luke 2:8-20

Forbidden from entering the temple

Can't testify in court

Considered unclean

Keep their sheep safe from enemies

Know their sheep and the sheep know their shepherd's voice (John 10:1-5)

Unto You is born in the City of David, (Bethlehem) a Savior Luke 2:10-12

Take note of the Angel's words. Why might they tell this to shepherds who are unable to testify?

Fulfilment of a prophecy in Micah 4:8

Migdal Edar – special tower – lookout post just north of Bethlehem

This tower first appears in **Genesis 35:21** where Jacob buried his wife Rachel after she gave birth to Benjamin. Earlier in history this was a military tower. But during the time of Jesus it became the Tower of the Flock where the Levitical shepherds raised the sacrificial lambs. Lambs were born, inspected, and wrapped in swaddling cloths to protect them from defects.

Jesus was the spotless lamb – 1 Peter 1:19

The LORD is a strong tower (migdal) – Proverbs 18:10

But you, Bethlehem Ephratah...out of you will come forth a ruler in Israel... - Micah 5:2

Ephratah means the place where Rachel died and where Benjamin was born

The angels proclaimed the savior's birth to some unlikely shepherds who just so happened to raise the sacrificial sheep. They more than anyone else would understand the significance of the Lamb of God born to take away sin.

Jesus says, *I AM the Good Shepherd John 10:11*

John the Baptist calls Jesus (at His baptism in the Jordan River), *The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29)*.

Ponder this:

God chose unlikely shepherds to “go and tell all they had seen and heard (Luke 2:15-20). And He has chosen you to go and tell what God has done for you and your family.

Don't underestimate your influence. Your adequacy is in God, not yourselves (2 Corinthians 3:5-6).