

## GLORIFYING AND PRAISING

**Luke 2:1-20**

Saturday, December 23, 2017

Luke 2:20; “The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.”

Frequently I encounter the question, “Why do you believe in the Bible?” I usually accept this inquiry as really meaning “Does the Bible persuade you that there is a God?” My answer is that I am not persuaded by the Bible to believe in God, but that I am persuaded by God to believe in the Bible.

Just like the shepherds in the Christmas story, I have seen and heard things that are just as I have been told about in the Bible. I have experienced God’s work in my life as amazing as manna in a desert, and whispers in the darkness. I often speak my conviction that “Timing is the basic proof of God in my life”. What I need is where I am, when I need it.

People have been able to explain the long chain of weather, tide and geographical conditions that would have allowed Moses to lead God’s people across a sea and destroy the Egyptian army that followed them. Yes, it explains how it could happen, but the miracle is in the timing, when the nation of Israel needed it.

Likewise, God has proven to me that He exists and I am able to frame my paradigm in that belief. I believe that the Bible reflects the God that I know and tells stories of God’s people who are just like me.

It isn’t Bible stories that will allow me to convince my neighbors, but my own testimony of what He has done this week for us all. As we go out each day we must recognize His work.

We all need to come back with the good news “glorifying and praising God for all the things” we’ve seen!

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, Once we know You, we can see you in your world, and in your work with us. Bless us Lord with your choir of voices in the night and the fulfillment of your promises in the dawn. Strengthen us for the testimony that we must share in the world, to transform it! Amen

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