

# DHCC Incarnation Lesson 2020

## “Respond To the Wonder” *M. A. Blue*

INTRODUCTION: The Christmas story is well known by many. However, have you ever taken a moment and considered how that story “hit” the ones who lived it out? How did it feel to walking through experiences that would change the world forever? And greater yet, how did they respond to those experiences? I don’t mean the smell of sheep, the roughness of manger, the shine of gold, and the aroma of frankincense, I mean how did it affect them internally? There’s only one way we can tell – their response.

So, let’s look at how they responded. Not only *WHAT God did* in the Moment of the Coming of the Lord was powerful, but *HOW “what God did”* touched them – and how they responded – was powerful also. And it is also instructive. It instructs us how... how to respond to the Wonder of Jesus Christ, born anew in our lives.

Sunday, December 6 - The Response of Mary: PONDER  
Sunday, December 13 - The Response of The Angels – PRAISE  
Sunday, December 20 - The Response of The Shepherds - PROCLAIM  
Sunday, December 27 - The Response of The Wise Men – PURSUE

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LESSON I - Sunday December 6, 2020

### The Response of Mary: **PONDER**

Foundational Scripture: “*But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.*” Luke 2:19

Foundational Lesson:

From the announcement that God wanted her to bring His Son in to the world, Mary’s response was one of deep wonder, contemplation, and meditation. We can learn from her and others like her.

- A. Mary pondered.** Luke 1:26-29, 30-38, 39; 46-55 / Luke 2:19, 33, 52
- B. Joseph joined her.** Luke 2:33
- C. The people in Bethlehem who heard about the Baby were amazed and were in wonder.** Luke 2:18
- D. The doctors in the Temple were astonished when the Boy Jesus spoke to them.** Luke 2:46-47
- E. Mary and Joseph were not the only one who pondered: the prophets had been pondering for centuries!**

“Of which salvation *the prophets have enquired and searched diligently*, who prophesied of the grace [that should come] unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. I Peter 1:10-11 KJV

This salvation was something even *the prophets wanted to know more about* when they prophesied about this gracious salvation prepared for you. They *wondered what time or situation the Spirit of Christ within them was talking about* when he told them in advance about Christ’s suffering and his great glory afterward. I Peter 1: 10-11 NLT

- F. And believe it or not, those who are older than mankind had been pondering as well: the angels!**

“Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; *which things the angels desire to look into.*” I Peter 1:12 KJV

They were told that their messages were not for themselves, but for you. And now this Good News has been announced to you by those who preached in the power of the Holy Spirit sent from heaven. *It is all so wonderful that even the angels are eagerly watching these things happen.* I Peter 1:12 NLT

- G. What do we learn from their response?**

1. We learn that whenever we receive the Word and works of God,
  - a. we should not do so **casually**, but that
  - b. we should be **reverent** to the fact that we have heard from God, and then
  - c. we should continue to think and **concentrate** on how it applies in our lives.
2. We learn that if we ponder on God’s Word and works, **HIS impact grows** in our lives.
3. We learn that we should never lose our fascination and devotion at God’s Word and His works.

BE READY FOR LESSON II – “The Response of The Angels – PRAISE!” Luke 2:13-14