

## DHCC Incarnation Lesson 2020 (Part II)

### “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 II - Sunday December 13, 2020**

#### **The Response of The Angels: PRAISE**

Foundational Scripture: Luke 2:13-14

Foundational Lesson:

There was one angel who announced the birth of Jesus Christ to the shepherds. However, once he had spoken, an army of angels appeared, and they were praising God in RESPONSE to the announcement! Even though they were heavenly beings, they praised God for what He was about to do on the earth!

- A.** These angels seem to be a heavenly regiment of soldiers. What was their assignment? The Scripture does not explicitly say; however, they may have been the ones who kept guard over the entire Earthly Life of the Son of God.
1. An angel had announced the birth of John the Baptist. Luke 1:11
  2. An angel had announced Jesus’ Birth to Mary in an open vision, i.e., Mary was awake. Luke 1:27
  3. An angel had announced Jesus’ Birth to Joseph in a night vision, i.e., a dream – Joseph was asleep. Matt. 1:20
  4. An angel warned Joseph to take the Child and flee to Egypt and told him when to come back from Egypt. Matt. 2:13,19
  5. Jesus was ministered to by angels after Satan’s temptation. Matt. 4:11
  6. Jesus was strengthened by an angel during His prayer in Gethsemane. Luke 22:43
  7. Jesus said, in the Garden, that if He’d asked, the Father would have given twelve legions of angels (as many as 72,000). Apparently, they were on hold, at hand, throughout His Passion, from the arrest to the Resurrection. (Were these the same angels that had appeared in the fields of Bethlehem? Remember, angels do not age.) Matt. 26:53
  8. An angel rolled the stone away after He had risen, to bear witness, and two angels sat inside the Sepulchre when the women came in to see. Matt. 28:2, John 20:21
  9. Two angels stood by when Jesus ascended bodily into Heaven the last time. Acts 1:9-11
- B.** **And remember, from last week’s lesson: the angels had been pondering the Plan of Salvation!** I Peter 1:12 KJV
- C.** **And when Jesus was born, they praised God! We don’t know exactly why, but here are some possible reasons:**
1. They praised God in the original Creation (Job 38:4-7), how much more so as He prepares to accomplish RE-Creation?
  2. They praised God because the entire Universe, including the earth, was going to be redeemed. Rev. 5:11-12
  3. They praised God because Satan’s defeat would be eternally sealed. Rev.12:10
  4. They praised God because mankind, first in the Fall, had brought forth a MAN Who would be first in the Restoration. Rev. 5:12
- D.** **What do we learn from their response?**
1. When the Message of God is declared, it should be received with joy. Jer. 15:16
  2. Praise is a strategy of spiritual warfare. II Chron. 20:13-25
  3. Spiritual warriors (human and angelic) are praisers. Psalm 103:20-21, Psalm 148:2
  4. Praise is not just earthly – praise translates and transfers into the heavenly realm. Psalm 149: 6-9, Eph. 6:12
  5. Those closest to God are provoked to worship and praise Him. Isaiah 6:1-3, Rev. 4:8-11 ETC.

**BE READY FOR LESSON III – “The Response of The Shepherds – PROCLAIM!” Luke 2:13-14**