



## Glory of Heaven – Part 6

### Introduction

#### Merry Christmas!

This week Chance concludes a new series titled: **"Glory of Heaven" with Week 6 - Sharing Heaven**. In this series we will be looking at what Scripture says about Heaven. Heaven is a very real place, and everyone is wired to want Heaven & wants to get there, but what is it?

What makes the Christmas story so special is that it's a true story, it's the fulfillment of prophecy from long ago that was set in motion by a loving God, who provides a way for undeserving people to enter a right relationship with Him for eternity.

### Questions

1. How was the angel a surprising messenger for Joseph as he tried to decide whether to divorce Mary (quietly) or to proceed to marry her? How hard would it be to accept this message and trust God's plan for Immanuel? **Matthew 1:20-25**
2. When Joseph & Mary had to travel to Bethlehem, the city of David, for the census how did that fulfill the prophecy for the Messiah? Why was it important to know how Mary wrapped the baby Jesus after He was born? **Luke 2:6-7**
3. When the angel appeared to the shepherds, what sign did he tell them to look for so that they would know this was the baby he told them about? What were the lambs that they were guarding at night? **Luke 2:8-12**
4. After the vast host of (unnumbered) Angels appeared to shepherds, what did they do with what they had seen and heard? Why were they surprising messengers to

proclaim the coming of a newborn king? **Luke 2:13-18**

5. Did you know that from birth to resurrection God used contrasting, unlikely, witnesses to proclaim who Jesus is? Since God used a surprising variety of people as messengers, why wouldn't God use you?
6. Do you believe that Jesus didn't just die for you, He came to die instead of you, to die the death you deserve? Do you realize that He took your place? Does your life reflect that wondrous truth?
7. Do you take for granted what Christmas is all about? Do you live like the glory of heaven can be experienced now through His peace and rest? Are you sharing heaven by telling others about Jesus as and who He is & what He has done?

### **Key Takeaway**

*From angels to shepherds, God changes lives and uses the unlikely to tell the story of His amazing Grace and unfailing love. That He would take our place and bear our cross.*

### **Summary**

- Angel messenger Joseph's decision - divorce or marriage
- Caesar's census - going to Bethlehem, fulfilling prophecy
- Host of angels as messengers - vast amount that couldn't be counted
- Lowly shepherd messengers - watching unblemished lambs for sacrifice
- Contrasting witnesses/messengers proclaiming who Jesus is
- The true message of Christmas - Jesus came for you & to die instead of you!
- Why can't you be a messenger of the glory of Heaven - that we can experience peace and rest here & now