



December 19, 2021

## “Unto You is Born This Day”

Luke 2:1-21

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### **Common Symbolic Interpretations of the Shepherds of Luke 2**

Synecdoche 1: The shepherds represent humanity in general

Synecdoche 2: The shepherds represent the poor and/or marginalized

Synecdoche 3: The shepherds represent the poor in spirit

Symbol 1: The shepherds represent the idea of “the Good Shepherd”

Symbol 2: The shepherds represent a possible allusion to temple (and Jesus’) sacrifice

### **The Angels Come to This Group on This Day**

In the same region: localized

Out in the field: on duty

For unto YOU is born this day: a specific set of (5?) individuals

How would they have heard the “unto you”?

Each shepherd present had a story being answered in some way by the angels

Part of God’s equation for this night was for the shepherds

### **Jesus and the Particular**

God has time for the little guy even when on a “big” mission

After the resurrection on the road to Emmaus: Luke 24:13-35

While on the cross: “Today you will be with Me in paradise”: Luke 23:39-43

Zacchaeus: “I must stay at your house today”: Luke 19:5

Jesus found Philip: John 1:43-51

Jesus to Nathanael: I saw you under the fig tree: John 1:47-51

From the angels Nathanael will see to the angels the shepherds saw 30 years earlier

God does not see you as some nameless fan in the crowd

God does not see you fuzzily through the covering of Jesus

The power of the microscope of heaven sees the number of hairs on your head: Luke 12:7

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me! Psalm 139:13-18, 6