



## Come + See But Why?

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025  
Luke 2:34-35

Our Christmas series Come + See finishes today. This is it, it all ends here. But actually there is something that that I want to see begin here today. If you have never stepped into a personal relationship with this Jesus of Bethlehem, would you join me now in asking God to do the impossible right here in this place.

Let us turn to the three readings we have heard this afternoon. Firstly,

1

### Matthew 1:21

She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Why was He to be called Jesus?

The angel draws a line. There are those he will save from their sins and those he won't. There are those who will come there are those who won't. But whatever rejection He would experience, He was going to that cross for you and me.

2

He was not birthed in a stable to take a poll on public opinion. **He wasn't even coming to be an influencer.** The manger was simply the route He took on His way to your cross to bring about a new birth for all who would believe.

But Why? Because He was the Son of God. He was the Saviour of mankind. And later in His life when, just like today, there were many rumours and opinions doing the rounds, we read this in **Matthew 16:13-16,**

3

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

4

Before we take another step closer to Christmas, what is your answer? **Who do you say He is?** I'm not asking what is your truth, or what is your opinion. I am asking you, who do you say He is? And does that match who God says He is?

And so to the wise men...

5

**Matthew 2:2,**

“Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

Why look so hard, travel so far, risk so much? But why go to such great lengths?

6

Why? **There was one purpose for that whole journey.** There was one goal in all the plotting and charting and star-gazing – to worship Him. That’s it!

To worship Him; **to worship the Son of God!**

7

Remember what the angel told Joseph in **Matthew 1:21,**

you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

Why worship Him? Because He will save His people from their sins. Because He chose to empty Himself of everything He had and live with us so you could be filled with every goodness your sins have separated you from.

And maybe you struggle to see how a God of love would let you struggle the way you have struggled. Or why He would allow others to mis-treat you the way they have. And why you have to carry the silent scars.

I have walked many miles with many of you, but I haven’t had to wear your shoes or live your past. But I have had many experiences of grown men who held positions and power and who saw the weaknesses left in me by a childhood empty of emotional expression and nurture, and they took those weaknesses and made them their strengths.

8

My conclusion is this. **The hateful act of one person against another cannot and does not reduce the love of God one bit.** A love which emptied itself and laid bare in a manger, which emptied itself and hung in humiliation on a cross. And that...all for me!

So let me ask you, will you worship Him as King and Lord of all or will you rather hold onto a carefully curated opinion that keeps Him in the manger?

9

Now, these shepherds, why did they go? **Luke 2:15**

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

10 And we also read a little later in **verse 17**,

And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.

Why did the shepherds go see? So they could make known what had been made known to them.

But why? Why shepherds? Why not some more educated folk? Because inviting the shepherds meant revealing Himself to people who would not go away and start a discussion group about who God is, or, what He like. He wasn't after them starting a focus group to determine how best to market this idea to a sleeping world. God was not looking for people to intellectualise His birth.

11 **He was looking for people to echo the announcement of the angels** from Bethlehem throughout Judea, into the surrounding areas, across the world, to every tribe, tongue, and nation, and eventually into a room in a pretty insignificant town to a people curious enough to Come and See – to you!

12 A little after the Christmas story closes out, a devout man called Simeon, as he held Jesus in His hands said this in **Luke 2:34-35**,

Behold, this child is appointed [...] so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.”

And today, God is not asking you your opinion about Jesus. He asking you,

- 13
1. Who do you say He is in your heart?
  2. Will you worship Him now and always?
  3. Will you go and make this known as widely as possible?