



Come & See What God Has Done

I Will Seek Out My Sheep

Dec. 12

If you have ever seen herding dogs in action, you, like I, might be amazed at the skill and tenacity at gathering wayward sheep into a manageable flock. In ancient times, before the existence of these beautiful canines, shepherds were the guardians of their flock. In the Advent story, shepherds play critical roles in spreading the good news of the birth of a Messiah. Jesus, our good Shepherd, was prophesied in the book of Ezekiel. The word of the Lord came to Ezekiel as captured in Ezekiel 34:11-14, "For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country." This promise is one of God Himself and not a surrogate of the shepherd that will seek out, feed, and care for His flock.





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We find this prophecy affirmed in the words of Jesus as chronicled in the book of John. We read in John 10:11-15. “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.” Other passages in the Bible refer to Jesus as the gateway to heaven and the Father.

Jesus is the good shepherd you and I desperately need. Sometimes, we may foolishly think we are good enough not to need a Savior. Or we may erroneously believe we can earn our salvation through being good people and doing good deeds. Sadly, this line of thinking is one of endless frustration. Can you honestly say how much is enough? The Sadducees and Pharisees of Jesus’ day thought they could earn their salvation that way. But we know better. We need that, Savior. We require that whole Jesus. We need the Jesus born in a manger, betrayed by friends, tortured, and killed on a cross. And we need the Jesus raised from the dead by His Father, the whole Jesus. We, today, are the benefactors of love so deep we can scarcely fathom it. The absolute love of a Father willing to give up His Son for our salvation. That is what we can see the Lord has done.

Leaning on Jesus
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