<u>audio</u>

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

All of my Sunday 2015 Christmas Special lessons have been taken from Luke Ch.2. They have featured the Bethlehem Shepherds.

In our last lesson, we learned that these Bethlehem temple shepherds understood they were spiritually connected to messianic prophecy of Micah 5:2 and 4:8.

They were the only ones contacted by God to attend the birth of His Only Begotten Son. They were the first invited to witness the Word of God becoming flesh (John 1:1, 14-18).

"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, **and we beheld His glory**, <u>glory as of the Only Begotten from</u> <u>the Father</u>, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

This lesson will study four aspects of the Word Became Flesh.

1. These Bethlehem shepherds bore witness of the messianic Word of God being fulfilled both by Micah's prophecy and by the angel of the Lord announcement (Luke 2:8-20; Micah 5:2).

They witnessed the **prophetic Word becoming historical Flesh** in these shepherd's stable manger.

2. What I want us to see is how the Word of God became flesh in these shepherds. This is found in our lesson text (Luke 2:10-18).

Notice that after the angel of the Lord gave the prophetic message (Luke 2:10-14) and after the military angelic choir sang, Gloria in Excelsis Deo, they immediately left their sheep to find the messianic baby (Luke 2:15-16).

How the Word of God became flesh in the shepherd is declared in Luke 2:17-18.

"And when they has seen this, **they made known** <u>the statement which had been told them</u> about the baby. And all who heard it wondered at <u>the things which were told them</u> by the shepherds."

3. The WORD becoming flesh in these shepherds was a sign of their spiritual growth maturity.

We have been studying spiritual growth maturity at Tuesday Bible study. We have learned that one of the six characteristics of super-grace maturity is LOGOS, Word of God **in utterance or speech (2 Cor.8:7)**.

The shepherds went into the town and declared the birth of the Good Shepherd Savior (John 10:11).

4. One of the divine honors bestowed upon a believer who reaches and maintains super-grace maturity is historical and spiritual impact in the plan of God.

They went from trusting God to do for them to God trusting them to do for Him.

We saw this with Abel in the super-grace hall of faith - "...though he is dead, he still speaks." (Heb.11:4)

When they received the revelation of birth of the Savior, they immediately responded to the directive will of God by putting messianic doctrines together by <u>spiritual maturity</u>.