

# Hidden Glory

Luke 2:1-20

## Very Important Person

Who are some “very important people”?

What makes them important?

“Very important people” tend to connect with other “Very important people” while ignoring the rest of us...

But God sees things differently...

Caesar August: VIP**	Jesus Christ: Obscurity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• lived in a palace 8,600 m<sup>2</sup> (92,500 ft<sup>2</sup>)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• first bed was an animal feeding trough among an oppressed people</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ruled over ~60 million people</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• his birth was known only to a few lowly shepherds</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ruled an army of 250,000 men</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• had no home during his ministry</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ruled over 3,300,000 km<sup>2</sup></li></ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• lived to 75 years old</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• died at 33 years old as a criminal</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• with a giant procession over 220 km in his honor at his death</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• with perhaps 120 followers who hid in locked rooms upon his death</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• with a great number of statues and coins that show his appearance</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• with no statues or coins or ...</li></ul> <p><b>And yet...</b></p>

## Jesus of Nazareth

is the visible expression of the invisible God

has all the fullness of God dwelling in Him

has the highest honor in all creation

is creator and sustainer of all things

So it is right that a great crowd of the heavenly armies celebrated when He was born!

Yet, the audience was a bit limited...

## This amazing display was sent to lowly, dirty, despised shepherds

Why was this amazing glory not sent to Jerusalem, to kings like Caesar Augustus, to the rich and honored, to the temple, to the Pharisees and religious leaders, to greater nations, to the most intelligent or the most noble or the most influential people?

Why isn't the glory of God as obvious as the sun in the sky??

“But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.”

*1 Corinthians 1:27-29*

## The Big Idea

**The unimaginable greatness of God  
was hidden in obscurity  
so that His glory is revealed  
to the humble who have faith**

The Son of God took on flesh as the lowest of people to raise the lowest of people to the glory of His Kingdom

The Spirit of the Most High will come to the lowest who turn to Him in humble faith

This is the sign of God's presence: glory in a manger

## Application

### Rejoice!

The Son of God became a human being so He could live, die, and come to life again to bring salvation...

Through lowly and oppressed people

For the lowly and needy

The Spirit of God lives within all who trust in the Son of God

Those who know their need for a Savior

## Trust

When Jesus was born...

Seemingly nothing changed

Yet the Kingdom of God had broken into humanity,  
and one day Jesus will return to bring its completion

When we trust in Jesus as Savior... (and pray... and obey in faith...)

Seemingly nothing changes

Yet the Spirit of God enters our lives  
and one day will make us share in the glory of God!

**Do you need a Savior? Do you need a Sustainer?**

Turn to Jesus, Savior, Messiah, and Lord in humble trust

On the surface, things may not change

Yet the Mighty Hand of God will begin His unstoppable work!