

People Used By God!

Fourth Sunday Of Advent

Matthew's Record

- **Matthew was written to the Jews, so it includes things important to Jews**
- **Matthew records Joseph's genealogy**
- **Matt.1:1 are saying this genealogy shows Jesus is the Messiah.**
- **Matthew records the birth of Jesus from Joseph's perspective.**

Luke's Record

- **Luke was written to the Greeks, so he says things important to the Greeks**
- **Luke records Mary's genealogy - Lk.3:23 "as was supposed"**
- **He wants to show Jesus' connection with the human race, and Saviour for all people.**
- **Luke records the birth of Jesus from Mary's perspective**

People God Uses

- **Recording the blemishes is a proof of scriptural accuracy and inerrancy.**
- **Rahab – A prostitute, saved by faith - Heb.11:3;**
- **Ruth, the Moabitess – a forbidden people. Deut.23:3,4**
- **King David – 2 Sam. Adulterer, Murderer**
- **Solomon – born from adultery; idolator – 1Kings 11:1-11**
- **Manasseh – Wicked King – 2Chron.33**

People God Uses

- **He uses Old People**
 - Abraham (100), Simeon, Anna (90)
- **He uses Young People**
 - David, Josiah, Mary
- **He uses the Rich – Solomon, The Wise Men**
- **He uses the Poor – Joseph and Mary**
- **He uses the Powerful – Kings**
- **He uses the Rejected - Shepherds**

People God Uses

- **The shepherds the Angels spoke to were:**
 - **Trusted so little they couldn't give testimony in court**
 - **Considered on par with con men, drug dealers**
 - **Little or no education, could be illiterate**
 - **Considered unclean, no religious observance**
 - **Caring for temple-flocks for sacrifice**
 - **Near the Migdal Eder (Tower of the flock) Micah 5:2;4:8**

How Do I Live It?

- **Why did God choose to make the shepherds the first to hear and His first messengers?**
- ✓ **Salvation through Jesus would be for All people, including them.**
- ✓ **It included the poor, illiterate, “non-religious”, “bad” people, who, just like the rich, highly educated, powerful, “beautiful people” and the ordinary faithfully go to work and pay taxes people, need the Gospel of Good News for All people**

How Do I Live It?

- 1. God is sovereignly moving all events toward His second coming.**
- 2. Do not think you are not good enough to be used by God.**
- 3. Sometimes God works in spite of us, not because of us**
- 4. God is a God of Grace and Forgiveness.**
- 5. Jesus was born in the tower of the flock to be the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. All people.**