



**BLAZING GLORY  
BREAKING THE  
DARKNESS**

*Luke 2:8-15*

What a spectacular scene when the radiating glory of God filled the night sky at Jesus' birth (*Luke 2:9*)!

Jesus gave up this glory in His self-emptying when He came into this world and was born as a pauper in a stable. "[He] made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men" (*Phil. 2:7*). Of course, Jesus did not give up His Deity, but only the outward and visible display of the glory that He once possessed in Heaven. However, the brilliance of God's majesty was displayed at the time of the angelic birth announcement. God was visiting this planet in the Person of the baby Jesus. For this reason, a display of magnificent light occurred, which revealed God's glory and God's presence. This light shown all around the shepherds in a spectacular display of blazing splendor. What a scene this was!

These were not the Northern Lights, or any natural phenomena. It was a supernatural light display. Yes, the heavenly appearance of the angel was accompanied with the radiance of God's Divine glory which God had previously portrayed in the *Shekinah* glory of the Old Testament. God's light of glory appeared in a cloud by day and as fire by night (*Ex. 13:21*). The *Shekinah* glory was also revealed at the tabernacle and temple (*Exod. 40:34; 2 Chron. 7:1*).

The *Shekinah* glory of God's presence shone out in the open fields of Bethlehem! Imagine what it must have been like on this wonderful night when God's glory lit up the sky. At one moment the night was pitch black, and then all of a sudden the sky was filled with the brilliant light of God's radiant glory! The outward, visible display of God's inherent glory was truly breathtaking and awe-inspiring.

***The Son of God has come!***

~Kelly Sensenig, Pastor of Berean Bible Church, Ephrata, PA  
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