



The Shepherds' Prayer: A Christmas Novel

Title:	The Shepherds' Prayer: A Christmas Novel
Author:	Richard M. Barry
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Audiobook:	3 CDs; John McDonough, Narrator; \$12.95; Length: 3 hours

Overview:

A young man orphaned as a baby sets off to discover the truth about the circumstances of his birth, the fate of his parents, and his heritage. Having been raised in a culture where bloodlines mean everything, he seems forever condemned to live as an outsider on the fringes of society until he discovers his true heritage. His only clue is a cryptic message on a lambskin blanket about a child born in a stable in Bethlehem. Who is this mysterious child? And what could such a child have to do with his own birth and destiny? The answers will change his life forever... and maybe yours.

The Story Behind *The Shepherds' Prayer*:

It was the Christmas season of 1997 when I began thinking about the story that would eventually become *The Shepherds' Prayer*. My wife and I had just returned from church. We were talking about how wonderful the story of Christ's birth was and what it meant to the world then and now. For all the good that came of His birth and for all that generations have read and talked about it since then, there also was great sadness that resulted in Bethlehem when Herod ordered the killing of all the male babies. Not much has been written or is ever said about that traumatic event and how it must have impacted the people of Bethlehem and their attitudes about the poor Galilean child who was the target of Herod's wrath. And not much has been written about the shepherds who were the first to proclaim that this child was the promised Messiah. How might their lives have been affected by Herod's massacre?

I started thinking about those untold stories and, after researching them, found that they were inspiring stories that were begging to be told. And so I set out to try to tell them in a way that would lead the reader on his or her own journey to discover Christ and what it truly means to be a Christian.

We all need to be reminded in a deeper way why we celebrate this time of year. This Christmas season, I sincerely hope this story will help you to see the birth of Christ in a new and thought-provoking way. Consider reading it each year as a Christmas tradition in your home.

About the Author

Richard M. Barry is an author, publisher, inventor, entrepreneur and committed Christian who wrote *The Shepherds' Prayer* to help disseminate the untold story of the Bethlehem shepherds of the Bible. A labor of love, the inspiring story of tragedy, suffering, faith, hope and triumphant vindication took nine years to complete. A native of Texas, Barry now lives with his family in the Denver suburb of Centennial, Colo.

About the AudioBook Narrator

John McDonough is the voice behind the audio version of *The Shepherds' Prayer*. He is an accomplished actor, singer, and narrator who has appeared on Broadway, in television and movies, and with opera companies and orchestras. He is the narrator of almost 200 audiobooks, including works of adult and children's fiction, biography, and history. McDonough is a longstanding member of AudioFile magazine's Golden Voices, the hall of fame of audiobook narrators.

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