

“The Birth of Jesus”

Part 2

Luke 2:1-7

July 25, 2021

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- 1 Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.
- 2 This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.
- 3 And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.
- 4 **Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,**
- 5 in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.
- 6 While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.
- 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,

“Joseph” – let’s go to Matt. to see how he is handling the situation.

Matt 1:18-25

- 18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit.
- 19 And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.

For the Jews there are 3 legitimate biblical reasons for divorce –

1. **Incest** (Lev. 18, 20) “marriage to a family member”
2. **Idolatry** (Ezra 10) “marriage to a worshipper of idols”
3. **Adultery** (Matt. 1:19) “marriage (betrothed) to a non-virgin”

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19 And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly.

20 But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

21 "She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus; for He will save His people from their sins."

22 Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

23 "BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL," which translated means, "GOD WITH US."

24 And Joseph awoke from his sleep and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took Mary as his wife,

25 but kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus.



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- Joseph was born in Bethlehem as David was.

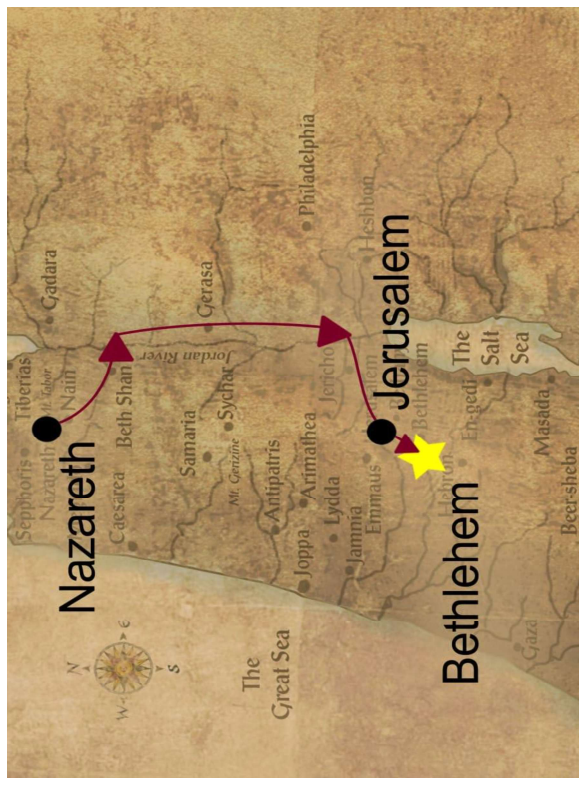
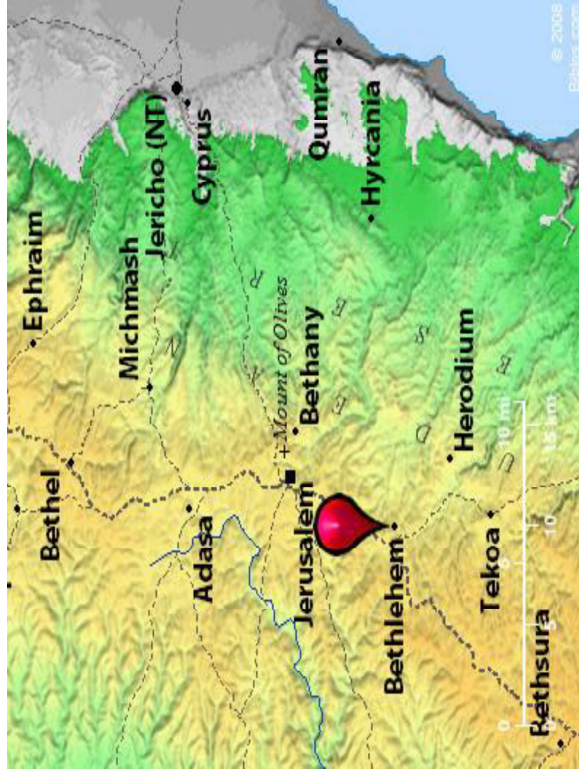
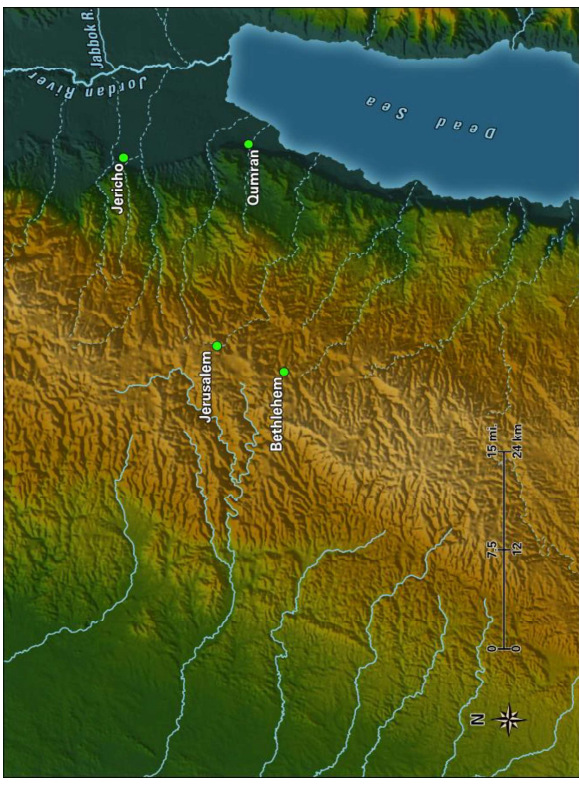
Ruth 1:22

22 So Naomi returned, and with her Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, who returned from the land of Moab. And they came to Bethlehem at the beginning of barley harvest.

Ruth 2:4

4 Now behold, Boaz came from Bethlehem and said to the reapers, "May the Lord be with you." And they said to him, "May the Lord bless you."

- Being of the family of David, Joseph was a descendant of King David and he has throne rights which will be passed on to his son, Jesus. He was the legal father of Jesus.



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5 in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

- 6 While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.
- 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

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3 things Luke wants us to know:

1. It appears both Joseph and Mary had to register.
 2. They were in a legal relationship.
 3. Mary was pregnant.
- εγκυδοσ - to swell, to be at the point of bursting. i.e. to be great with child.
- Mary is in the final stage.

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“days were completed” –

1. Her pregnancy was complete.
2. The fullness of time was complete.

Gal 4:4

4 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son,

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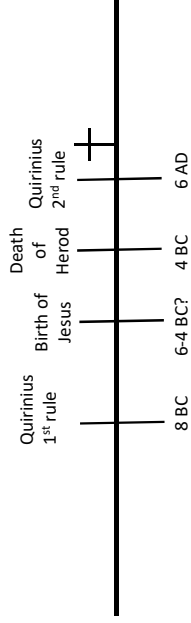
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“And she gave birth” –

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“And she gave birth” – As Mary held the baby Jesus, she must have wondered what his life would be like



- Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea approximately 6–4 B.C.
- The earliest evidence of the church celebrating Christmas on December 25 comes from the fourth-century manuscript known as the Calendar of 354.
- January 2, 6; March 21, 25; April 18, 19; May 20, 28; November 17, 20

Mary, Did You Know?

Written by Mark Lowry

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Would one day walk on water?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Would save our sons and daughters?

Did you know that your baby boy
Has come to make you new;

This Child that you delivered
Will soon deliver you?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Will give sight to a blind man?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
Would calm a storm with His hand?

Did you know that your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod,

And when you kiss your little baby
You've kissed the face of God?

Mary, did you know?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear,

The dead will live again,

The lame will leap, the dumb will speak

The praises of the Lamb!

Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Is Lord of all creation?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy

Will one day rule the nations?

Did you know that your baby boy

Was Heaven's perfect Lamb,

And the sleeping Child you're holding

Is the great, the Great I AM?

Oh, Mary, Mary, did you know?

7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

“And she gave birth” –

“first-born” - πρωτοτοκος - from πρωτος = 1. first, foremost in order of time. 2. position, rank, priority of position.

“and she wrapped Him in cloths, - The cloths were long strips used to make the baby feel secure, for protection, as well as provide warmth.

“and laid Him in a manger” A manger was symbolic of the future life that Jesus would live. A manger, like Christ, is approachable, accessible, available. No huge palace gates or doors or walls or Roman guards to keep people out.





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“no room for them in the inn” –

“Where you would have expected angels, there were only flies. Where you would have expected heads of state, there were only donkeys, a few haltered cows, some sheep, a tethered camel, & a furtive scurry of curious mice. Except for Joseph, there was no one to share Mary’s pain. Or her joy. Yes, there were angels announcing the Savior’s arrival – but only to a band of blue-collar shepherds. And yes, a magnificent star shone in the sky to mark his birthplace – but only 3 foreigners bothered to look up & follow it.” Thus, in the little town of Bethlehem...that one silent night...the royal birth of God’s Son tiptoed quietly by...as the world slept!”

- Ken Gire

“If we imagine that Jesus was born in a freshly swept, county fair stable, we miss the whole point. It was wretched—scandalous! There was sweat and pain and blood and cries as Mary reached up to the heavens for help. The earth was cold and hard. The smell of birth mixed with the stench of manure and acrid straw made a contemptible bouquet. Trembling carpenter’s hands, clumsy with fear, grasped God’s Son slippery with blood—the baby’s limbs waving helplessly as if falling through space—his face grimacing as he gasped in the cold and his cry pierced the night....No child born into the world that day seemed to have lower prospects.”

- Kent Hughes

“He began in a manger, and ended on the cross, and along the way had no where to lay His head.”

- John Darby

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“no room for them in the inn” –

“That there was no room in the inn was symbolic of what was to happen to Jesus. The only place where there was room for him was on a cross.” - David Guzik

The Jews said no room. The Gentiles said “no room.” The world today says “no room.”



1. Have you any room for Jesus,
He who bore your load of sin?
As He knocks and asks admission,
Sinners, will you let Him in?

Refrain

Room for Jesus, King of Glory!
Hasten now His Word obey;
Swing the heart's door widely open,
Bid Him enter while you may.
2. Room for pleasure, room for business,
But for Christ the Crucified,
Not a place that He can enter,
In the heart for which He died?

Refrain

3. Have you any room for Jesus,
As in grace He calls again?
O today is time accepted,
Tomorrow you may call in vain.

Refrain

4. Room and time now give to Jesus,
Soon will pass God's day of grace;
Soon thy heart left cold and silent,
And thy Savior's pleading cease.

Refrain

Daniel W. Whittle



Christmas time in our culture represents people who have filled their lives with everything but Christ. Our Christmas traditions are not found in the Bible but come from, in many cases, pagan origins.

- **Celebrating the holiday:** Christians did not celebrate the birth of Christ on a select day or holiday for the first 2 centuries after the first century. Not until 4th century. Gets confusing for believers.
- **The date – Dec. 25:** Chosen to coincide with the festival of Saturnalia (pagan holiday). Celebrate the coming of Spring and more sunlight. Partying, feasting, evergreens, gift giving, mistletoe, Carnival atmosphere. The church thought, "Let's sanctify this celebration by imposing the birth of Christ on the same day." "Bad idea."
- **Traditions: (origins found in culture, not the Bible)**

- St. Nicolas. (Santa)
- Caroling.
- Christmas cards.
- Stockings.
- Christmas tree.
- Decorating.

***Whether you choose to celebrate the traditions of the Christmas season, is up to you.**

Rom 14:5-6

- 5 One person regards one day above another, another regards every day alike. Each person must be fully convinced in his own mind.
- 6 He who observes the day, observes it for the Lord,

The birth of Christ is to be celebrated throughout the year.

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Note: You can hear the innkeeper say, "Come back tomorrow—some other day." People procrastinate their way right into hell.

Is your heart and life too full for Jesus?

“The problem of "no room" is symbolic of the problem that man has faced since Jesus was born. Most of mankind, throughout history, has had "no room" for the Lord Jesus Christ. People have no room for Christ because they are full of themselves, full of their own will, full of their own cares, and full of their own sinfulness. They feel they have no time or no need for the Lord.”

- Rod Mattoon

To the materialism of this world, Christ’s birth and his life is an indictment.

Luke 9:58

58 And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

*The Lord Jesus Christ borrowed a place to be born in and He borrowed a tomb to be buried in. In between He kept Himself free from the attachment to this world.