

The Prophet and the Messiah

The Birth of Salvation

Luke 2:1-20

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Introduction:

- **John 14:6**
 - **John 8:32**
 - Two ways to change your future:
 - One –
 - Two –
 - **Luke 2:1-20**
 - Let me clear up any confusion: The Prophet Isaiah spoke about the Messiah many times.
 - **Isaiah 7:14**
 - **Isaiah 9:6**
 - But the angel said to name Him Jesus:
 - **Luke 1:31**
 - **Matthew 1:21**
 - Is there a problem with the Bible here? – NO!
 - Jesus is the only name given here, while the others are Messianic Titles.
 - Hebrew – **Yeshua** ... English – **Jesus** ... means ... “*The Lord Saves.*”
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1. The Humble Birth:

- a. **Luke 2:4-7**
- b. The Hand of God is always moving through history.
- c. Since God is the God of all people, whether they believe in Him or not, He can use whom ever He wants to accomplish His will.
- d. Caesar thought he was enacting his will on the world, when what was really happening is that God was allowing him to play a small role in His plan.
- e. Bethlehem was a sleepy little town in the middle of nowhere.
- f. Bethlehem was a small town:
 - i. Today – 35,000 (roughly)
 - ii. Under the Ottoman Empire in 1596 – 1,435
 - iii. First century – 300-600 (roughly)
- g. **Micah 5:2**
- h. Consider the situation that Jesus was born in:
 - i. Born in a feeding trough
 - ii. To keep Him warm, He was wrapped in strips of linen.
 - iii. He was born in poverty and in loneliness.
 - iv. He was born into a world of corruption, greed, selfishness, and unkindness.

- i. There were so many people that day that missed the First Coming of Jesus.
- j. The question is – How many will miss the second?
- k. **Matthew 6:33**
- l. **Matthew 7:7-8**
- m. **James 4:10**
- n. **Matthew 11:28-30**

2. The Heavenly Announcement:

- a. **Luke 2:8-14**
- b. **John 1:43-46**
- c. Few in Israel thought to highly of Nazareth.
- d. **John 1:43-46**
- e. Joseph and Mary were also poor. At this time in Israel, many believed that the richer you were, the more God loved you.
- f. Now, the birth of the long-awaited Messiah is going to shepherds out in the middle of a field.
- g. Shepherds were not well respected.
- h. **1st Samuel 16:11**
- i. Hebrew – **Haqatan** ... English – **Youngest** ... “*Insignificant, unimportant.*”
- j. **Shekinah Glory** – Brilliance that appears with the presence of God.
- k. **Luke 2:10**
- l. Greek – **Christos** ... English – **Christ** ... “*The Messiah, the Christ.*”
- m. Greek – **Kyrios** ... English – **Lord** ... “*The One who exercises supernatural authority over all mankind and creation ... Lord, Ruler – God.*”
- n. **Luke 2:13-14**
- o. **Romans 3:23**
- p. **Romans 6:23**

3. The Small Celebration:

- a. Zechariah and Elizabeth’s celebration for John may have had 400-600 people.
- b. But that is not the case with Jesus.
- c. **Luke 2:15-20**
- d. Greek – **Thaumazo** ... English – **Amazed** ... means ... “*To marvel ... to be astonished ... to wonder.*”
- e. **John 3:16-17**
- f. Greek – **Syntereo** (*Syn-Tear-O*) ... English – **Treasured** ... “*To store in your mind ... to ponder ... to think about.*”