

## The FIRST Christmas is Prophetic (Part 2) Birth of Jesus; Matthew's Account

**Mat 1:18** Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise (*according to the following details*): When as his mother Mary was espoused (*promised/ engaged/ arrangements of marriage agreed upon*) to Joseph, before they came together (*wedding ceremony, and marriage consummation*), she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

**Mat 1:19** Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a publick example (*or stoned according to law*), was minded to put her away privily (*brake their arrangement of marriage agreed upon*).

**Mat 1:20** But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David (*read Matthew 1:1 through 1:16*), fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost (*and is Son of the living God!!*).

**Mat 1:21** And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

**Mat 1:22** Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet (*Isaiah*), saying,

**Mat 1:23** Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us (*Isaiah 7:14*).

**Mat 1:24** Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife (*Mary*):

**Mat 1:25** And knew her not (*did not consummate their marriage*) till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he (*Joseph*) called his name JESUS.

**Mat 2:1** Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem (*out of Gentile nations*),

*The wise men seemed to suspect that Jesus, King of the Jews, had already been born*

**Mat 2:2** Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

*Herod the Great and all of Jerusalem are not prepared for the birth of Jesus, even though many prophecies were given about his coming in the Old Testament.*

*I think we today overlook the fact that just as we do not know the day, or hour of the second coming of Jesus, they did not know the day, or hour of his first coming; in this case his birth.*

*I do not believe the prophecy in Daniel Chapter 9 (seventy weeks) pinpoint a day, or hour, but I would not argue the point???*

**Mat 2:3** When Herod the king (*Herod the Great*) had heard (*these things from the wise men*), he was troubled (*puzzled/ confused*), and all Jerusalem with him.

**Mat 2:4** And when he (*Herod*) had gathered all the chief priests and scribes (*learned men*) of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

**Mat 2:5** And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judaea: for thus it is written by the prophet,

**Mat 2:6** And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor (*National Ruler*), that shall rule my people Israel (*Micah 5:2*).

***Herod deceived the wise men that he may gain opportunity to destroy the new born King of Israel***

**Mat 2:7** Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, enquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

**Mat 2:8** And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

***The star led the wise men to Jesus, the new born King of Israel***

**Mat 2:9** When they (*the wise men*) had heard the king (*Herod*), they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

***When the wise men finally located Jesus, he was no longer a new born in a manger, but a young child in the house***

**Mat 2:10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

**Mat 2:11** And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

***God warns the wise men not to return to Herod, and also instructs Joseph to take the family into Egypt***

**Mat 2:12** And being warned of God in a dream that they (*the wise men*) should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

**Mat 2:13** And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.

**Mat 2:14** When he (*Joseph*) arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:

**Mat 2:15** And was there until the death of Herod (*the Great*): that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son (*Hosea 11:1*).

***About two years after Herod encountered the wise men from the east he realized they were not going to report the results of their search for the new born King of Israel***

**Mat 2:16** Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.

**Mat 2:17** Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by Jeremy (*Jeremiah*) the prophet, saying,

**Mat 2:18** In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel (*favorite wife of Jacob; Mother of Joseph and Benjamin*) weeping *for* her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not (*Jeremiah 31:15*).

- Mat 2:19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,
- Mat 2:20 Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life.
- Mat 2:21 And he (*Joseph*) arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel.
- Mat 2:22 But when he (*Joseph*) heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room (*place*) of his father Herod (*the Great*), he (*Joseph*) was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:
- Mat 2:23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

***Finally ... In the beginning, now, and for always; because of His great love all of mankind should be everlastingly grateful:***

***I am persuaded, whichever subject pertains to scripture that one may choose to investigate/ study/ consider/ or meditate, journeys to John 3:16 in one fashion, or the other. All scripture, I believe, has its' final reason at the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. And it is a sacrifice; not a killing, nor suicide:***

- Joh 10:7 Then said Jesus unto them again, **Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep.**
- Joh 10:8 **All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the (true???) sheep did not hear them.**
- Joh 10:9 **I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.**
- Joh 10:10 **The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have (*life*) more abundantly.**
- Joh 10:11 **I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.**
- Joh 10:12 **But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them (*the hireling*), and scattereth the sheep.**
- Joh 10:13 **The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.**
- Joh 10:14 **I am the good shepherd, and know my (*sheep*), and am known of mine.**
- Joh 10:15 **As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.**
- Joh 10:16 **And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold (*Israel?*): them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, *and* one shepherd.**
- Joh 10:17 **Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.**
- Joh 10:18 **No man taketh it (*my life*) from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.**

***He that is killed resists, and the suicide is out of despair; but the true sacrifice is out of HIS great love.***

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

*Notice again, it requires believing what God has said by His written Word, which is also His WORD, "JESUS".*

*No one can attain unto this salvation by their academics, or great works; although one may look for another (salvation) if they are please to do so.*

*Without faith it is impossible to please God; and he that comes to God must believe that He "Is". This is it, and I am confident He has nothing to apologizing for. Therefore, I will not attempt, nor do I consider myself qualified to apologize on His behalf, as some might occasionally do without intent. Amen, and again I say Amen!!!*