BIBLE TOPICS · NEW TESTAMENT

The Birth of Jesus

Unto You Is Born a Saviour · Luke 2:11

Where	When	His mother	His name
Bethlehem of Judæa	About 5 B.C.	The virgin Mary	JESUS, the Saviour

FULFILLED PROPHECY

Prophecies Fulfilled at His Birth

Hundreds of years before Bethlehem, God told His people how the Messiah would come into the world.

1

The Seed of the Woman

The first promise, in Eden.

"it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel."

GENESIS 3:15

2

Born of a Virgin

Fulfilled in Mary (Matthew 1:23).

"Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel."

ISAIAH 7:14

3

Born in Bethlehem

Named 700 years before.

"But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth"

MICAH 5:2

4

A Son Is Given

The child who is the mighty God.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given"

ISAIAH 9:6

5

From the Line of David

Of the house and lineage of David.

"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots"

ISAIAH 11:1

6

Called Out of Egypt

Fulfilled after Herod died (Matthew 2:15).

"When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called My son out of Egypt."

HOSEA 11:1

KEY VERSE

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:11 (KJV)

The Birth of Jesus Chart

MATTHEW 1–2 · LUKE 1–2

The Birth of Jesus

Unto you is born a Saviour

Twenty events in order · King James Version

Before His Birth

1 Gabriel Appears to Zacharias
A son, John, is promised to the old priest
LUKE 1:5–25

2 Gabriel Comes to Mary
Thou shalt call His name JESUS
LUKE 1:26–38

3 Mary Visits Elisabeth
My soul doth magnify the Lord
LUKE 1:39–56

4 John the Baptist Is Born
Zacharias speaks again and praises God
LUKE 1:57–80

5 Joseph's Dream
Fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife
MATTHEW 1:18–25

The Night He Was Born

6 Caesar's Decree
All the world should be taxed
LUKE 2:1–3

7 The Journey to Bethlehem
From Nazareth to the city of David
LUKE 2:4–5

8 Born and Laid in a Manger
No room for them in the inn
LUKE 2:6–7

9 Angels Appear to Shepherds
Good tidings of great joy
LUKE 2:8–14

10 The Shepherds Find the Babe
They came with haste and told it abroad
LUKE 2:15–20

His First Days

11 Named on the Eighth Day
His name was called JESUS
LUKE 2:21

12 Presented in the Temple
A pair of turtledoves
LUKE 2:22–24

13 Simeon's Blessing
Mine eyes have seen Thy salvation
LUKE 2:25–35

14 Anna Gives Thanks
She spake of Him to all
LUKE 2:36–38

The Wise Men and Egypt

15 The Star in the East
Wise men come to Jerusalem
MATTHEW 2:1–2

16 Herod Is Troubled
The scribes point to Bethlehem
MATTHEW 2:3–8

17 The Wise Men Worship Him
Gold, frankincense and myrrh
MATTHEW 2:9–12

18 The Flight into Egypt
Warned by an angel in a dream
MATTHEW 2:13–15

19 The Children of Bethlehem
Herod's cruel decree
MATTHEW 2:16–18

20 Home to Nazareth
After Herod died
MATTHEW 2:19–23

KEY VERSE

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

LUKE 2:11 (KJV)

From Nazareth to Bethlehem

MAP

From Nazareth to Bethlehem

Joseph and Mary traveled about ninety miles from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judæa. Later the family fled south into Egypt and then came home to Nazareth.

LUKE 1–2 · MATTHEW 2

From Nazareth to Bethlehem

The journeys of the first Christmas

About 5 B.C. · Positions and roads approximate



THE PLACES IN ORDER

1 Nazareth — LUKE 1:26–38
Gabriel comes to Mary

2 Bethlehem — LUKE 2:4–20
Jesus is born; the shepherds come

3 Jerusalem — LUKE 2:22–38
Presented in the temple; Herod meets the wise men

4 Bethlehem — MATTHEW 2:9–11
The wise men worship the young child

5 Egypt — MATTHEW 2:13–15
The flight from Herod

6 Nazareth — MATTHEW 2:19–23
Home again after Herod died

"And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem"

LUKE 2:4

Positions and roads are approximate.

1 Nazareth
Gabriel comes to Mary
LUKE 1:26–38

2 Bethlehem
Jesus is born; the shepherds come
LUKE 2:4–20

3 Jerusalem
Presented in the temple; Herod meets the wise men
LUKE 2:22–38

4 Bethlehem
The wise men worship the young child
MATTHEW 2:9–11

5 Egypt
The flight from Herod
MATTHEW 2:13–15

6 Nazareth
Home again after Herod died
MATTHEW 2:19–23

Who Came to See Him

LUKE 2 · MATTHEW 2

Who Came to See Him

God made His Son known to humble shepherds, to faithful old saints in the temple and to Gentile wise men from far away.

THE SHEPHERDS

They Came with Haste

The first to hear the news, and the first to tell it.

"And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger."

LUKE 2:16

SIMEON

Mine Eyes Have Seen

A just and devout man waiting for the consolation of Israel.

"For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation"

LUKE 2:30

ANNA

She Gave Thanks

A widow of great age who served God night and day.

"and spake of Him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem."

LUKE 2:38

THE WISE MEN

Come to Worship Him

Gentiles from the east who followed His star.

"for we have seen His star in the east, and are come to worship Him."

MATTHEW 2:2

> *"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."*
>
> Luke 2:14 (KJV)

The Names Given at His Birth

HIS NAMES

The Names Given at His Birth

The angels and prophets gave the child names that tell us who He is.

JESUS

The LORD Saves

The name the angel gave.

"and thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins."

MATTHEW 1:21

EMMANUEL

God with Us

God Himself in our flesh.

"Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

MATTHEW 1:23

CHRIST THE LORD

The Saviour

The Messiah, the Anointed One.

"a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

LUKE 2:11

SON OF GOD

That Holy Thing

Conceived by the Holy Ghost.

"shall be called the Son of God."

LUKE 1:35

KING OF THE JEWS

Born a King

Heir to the throne of David.

"Where is He that is born King of the Jews?"

MATTHEW 2:2

WONDERFUL

The Prince of Peace

Isaiah's names for the child.

"and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

ISAIAH 9:6

Why His Birth Matters and Key Themes

FOR TODAY

Why His Birth Matters to Us

The birth of Jesus is more than a beautiful story. It is good news for every person.

1

God Came Near

He knows our life from the inside.

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us"

JOHN 1:14

2

He Came to Save

The manger points to the cross.

"that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners"

1 TIMOTHY 1:15

3

He Humbled Himself

From heaven's glory to a manger.

"But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant"

PHILIPPIANS 2:7

4

Good News for All

Not only for Israel, but for all people.

"I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."

LUKE 2:10

5

Ponder It

Like Mary, treasure what God has done.

"But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart."

LUKE 2:19

6

Give Thanks

Jesus is God's greatest gift.

"Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift."

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15

KEY THEMES

Six Truths of His Birth

The Christmas story is short, but every part of it teaches something about God and His Son.

1

God Keeps His Promises

Born at the time God chose.

"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son"

GALATIANS 4:4

2

Born of a Virgin

Conceived by the Holy Ghost.

"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee"

LUKE 1:35

3

God with Us

God Himself came near.

"and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."

MATTHEW 1:23

4

A Saviour Is Born

He came to save sinners.

"for He shall save His people from their sins."

MATTHEW 1:21

5

Humble Beginnings

The King of glory in a manger.

"and laid Him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn."

LUKE 2:7

6

Worthy of Worship

Shepherds and wise men bowed.

"and fell down, and worshipped Him"

MATTHEW 2:11