

5.) Where was Jesus born?

Nazareth Bethlehem Jerusalem Egypt

6.) How did the shepherds who visited Baby Jesus know where to find Him?

They were told in a dream.

An angel of the Lord told them. They read it in the ancient scrolls. A messenger from the east informed them.

7.) How did the Magi (wise men) who visited Baby Jesus know where to find Him?

They followed a star

in the east. An angel of the Lord told them. They were told in a dream. They followed a cloud before them.

8.) Which was not a gift the wise men brought to Jesus?

Myrrh Frankincense Silver Gold

9.) To escape from the king, the angel of the Lord told Jesus' family to leave and go where?

Syria Egypt Bethlehem Palestine

10.) Where was Jesus raised after they returned?

Bethlehem Egypt Syria Nazareth



THE SHEPHERDS AT THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Read Luke 2.1-20

GETTING READY FOR JESUS

1. The MANNER of Jesus' Birth

The Prophecy: "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." Genesis 3:15

The Fulfillment: "But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons." Galatians 4:4-5

- Why is the birth of the Savior to a woman so important in God's plan to defeat Satan? Hint: Who was the first to accept Satan's temptation and bring about the downfall of humanity.

ANSWERS TO QUIZ: 1. Jacob Matthew 1.16 2. Gabriel Luke 1.26 3. Simeon Luke 2.25, 26 4. Herod Matthew 2.13-15 5. Bethlehem, Luke 2.4 6. An angel of the Lord told them, Luke 2.8-20 7. They followed a star from the East, Matthew 2.1-10 8. Silver, Matthew 2.11 9. Egypt, Matthew 2.13-15 10. Nazareth, Matthew 2.22-23

2. The **ANCESTRY** of Jesus' Birth

The Prophecy: *"And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; and I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."* Genesis 12:2-3

The Fulfillment: *"You are sons of the prophets and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed'. To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities."* Acts 3:25-26

- ♦ Why is it important to know that God had planned through the father of faith, Abraham, to bring one of his descendants as the one to save the world?

3. The exact **TRIBE** of **JESUS** birth

The Prophecy: *"The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people."* Genesis 49:10

The Fulfillment: *"Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and*

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE NEXT WEEK

- 1) How did the shepherds learn about the birth of Jesus?
- 2) How did you learn about Jesus?
- 3) How did the birth of Jesus change the life of these shepherds?
- 4) How has His birth changed your life?
- 5) Why was Jesus introduced as first the 'Savior,' then 'Christ' and finally as the their 'Lord?' See Luke 2.11
- 6) How is each of these titles for Jesus important on your personal spiritual journey? How does the order of these effect
- 7) What can we learn from the shepherds that will help us on our spiritual journey with Jesus?

JESUS BIRTH—QUIZ ANSWERS TO QUIZ: at the end (no peeking).

1.) Who was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary?

Jacob Eleazar Azor Jechonias

2.) Which angel appeared to Mary? Gabriel

The Angel of the Lord Michael Gideon

3.) Who was promised that he would not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ?

Zacharias Joseph Simeon John the Baptist

4.) Who was the king of Judaea at the time of the birth of Jesus?

Herod Pilate Caesar Barnabas

Fulfillment: *Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more."* Matthew 2:16-18

- ♦ Why do you think Herod reacted to the birth of this new king in such a violent way?

- ♦ How does Herod's actions help us understand how many non-believers respond to the birth and life of Jesus?

The birth of Jesus was no accident. It was not a set of happenstantial events picked up by writers to make Jesus look good. This was a planned and designed to make it so only ONE individual in all of history could fulfill all the prophecies and be shown as the ONE sent from God.

lineage of David." Luke 2:4

- ♦ Note: Shiloh means tranquil or peace. How does obedience to this descendant of Judah bring peace into the life of an individual?

4. The exact FAMILY of Jesus' birth

The Prophecy: *"And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious."* Isaiah 11:10

The Fulfillment: *"Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child."* Luke 2:4-5

- ♦ How does the Bible help us know that Jesus is the promised one? How does it help us know with exactness that this has always been God's plan?

5 & 6. The VIRGIN Birth and His NAME

The Prophecy: "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14 .

The Fulfillment: "So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,' which is translated, 'God with us.'" Matthew 1:22-23

An angel of the Lord told Joseph "And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins." Matthew 1:21 "Immanuel" means "God with us". "Jesus" means "God Saves."

- ◆ Why is a virgin birth so important in the plans of God in saving humanity?

- ◆ How do the titles and name of Jesus help us understand God's intention and planning for restoring fellowship with humanity?

7. The exact PLACE of Jesus' birth

The Prophecy: "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2

The Fulfillment: Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. Luke 2:4-7

- ◆ In all of history, what is the possibility of anyone else fulfilling all of God's prophecies concerning the birth of the savior?

- ◆ How does help us to have the facts to go with our faith?

8. The DEVISTATION surrounding Jesus' birth

Prophecy: Thus says the LORD: "A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation and bitter weeping, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted for her children, Because they are no more." Jeremiah 31:15 (NKJ)