

The Birth Of Jesus

Luke 2:1-20

Faith Portal Church

ADULT

Unit 6 Lesson 3

Supplemental Texts

Matt 1:18-25

Focus Verse

“And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.” – Luke 2:7

Introduction

The angel of the Lord appeared unto Joseph and Mary about the birth of Jesus. Luke 1:26-38 details the physical appearance of angel Gabriel unto Mary, telling her she would conceive and bear a Son and must call Him Jesus. She was greeted in a special way: *Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women (v. 28)*. In Matt 1:18-25, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream saying Mary would bear a Son and must name Him Jesus (v. 21).

Deeper Look

The Birth Of Jesus Christ – Luke 2:1-7

About the time of Jesus' birth, Caesar Augustus, a nephew of Julius Caesar, made a law that the Jewish nation or all the Roman empire, should be taxed (to enroll or register for taxation). It was customary for the Jews to enroll by tribes and families; therefore, Joseph and his espoused wife, Mary, being of the family of David travelled from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be enrolled for taxation. Mary, at this time, was near her due time, but was obliged to travel to Bethlehem due to the law. Within these happenings, was divine providence that she might give birth there so that the prophecy in Mic 5:2 might be fulfilled. And while they were there, Mary gave birth to Jesus, her firstborn son, and laid Him in a manger because there was no room in the inn.

I Bring You Good Tidings Of Great Joy – Luke 2:8-20

In Bethlehem were certain shepherds on the field guarding their flocks (from wild animals and robbers) in a night watch. To these, God sent His angel to proclaim the birth of Jesus Christ our Savior. The angel brought the good news not only to the shepherds or the Jews, but to us all. The long-awaited Savior and Anointed Lord has been born (Isa 9:6; Mic 5:2; John 1:14) to save us from our sins (Matt 1:21). With God's glory on display at the news of our Savior's birth, the angel gave a sign that attested to a lowly condition in which the shepherds would find Jesus. Of a truth, He became poor for our sakes (2 Cor 8:9). Suddenly, more angels came and joined the angel in praising God. Without delay, the shepherds went to see what the angel had told them.

Questions

1. Why were Joseph and Mary not fortunate to get a room in the inn when they arrived in Bethlehem? Why was that circumstance important? Read 2 Cor 8:9.
2. If you had to change some things about the birth of Jesus Christ to match His deity, starting from the status of His parents to the angelic proclamation, what would you change?
3. The world during Jesus' day was unaware that their Savior had been born and, therefore, was ignorance of the good tidings that came with His birth. How is our world today different? Explain.
4. Why did God choose to proclaim the good tidings to the shepherds in view of their cultural importance? Do all the people of the world know about the good tidings? If no, what role do you play to let the good tidings reach all people?
5. The birth of Jesus brought peace to all men, both the Jews and the Gentiles. How is this peace obtained and guaranteed?
6. What were the actions of the shepherds from the moment they were told of Jesus' birth? Which action would be considered the most important? Why?
7. Describe how Mary would feel considering everything the shepherds said.

Personal Meditation

The Christmas story is one created in heaven and told on earth; it was packed in heaven and unpacked on earth. It is a story that unravels the mysteries of God and showcases the awesome LOVE of God (John 3:16). It is a story that narrates how God entered our world and became man (John 1:14), leaving behind all His glory (John 17:5).

No room was found for Jesus except in a manger. No one considered the situation of Mary and offered her a better place. Had they known Whom was to be born, they would have offered even more than a room in the inn. However, God's plan was to fulfill all the prophecies relating to the birth of His Son Jesus. Is there a room for Christ Jesus in your heart? He wants to abide with you, but will you let Him (John 14:23). Behold, He is knocking, will you open (Rev 3:20)?

The shepherds are an excellent example to us: they left what was important to them to seek the wonder that God had wrought. When they saw Jesus, they reported the angelic tidings and, upon their return, glorified and praised God. What would you do if you were the shepherds?

DAILY STUDY

Monday	Matt 1:18-21
Tuesday	Matt 1:22-25
Wednesday	Luke 2:1-5
Thursday	Luke 2:6-9
Friday	Luke 2:10-14
Saturday	Luke 2:15-20



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