

Online Outline

The Real Meaning of Christmas

The Birth of Jesus the Messiah I

December 2, 2020

Turn in your Bibles to Luke 2: 1-6

Luke 2:1-6 (KJV)

¹ And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

² (*And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.*)

³ And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

⁵ To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

I. Introduction

When we look at these verse especially through verse 24, we see the prophecy given by Jacob on his death bed in Egypt.

Genesis 49:10 (KJV)

¹⁰ The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*.

A. The scepter of rule had departed from Judea.

- a. Judea was under the rule of Rome with Caesar August reigning as emperor.
- b. Cyrenius was governor of Syria
 - i. Judea was included in the province of Syria.
- c. Herod was now the King of Judea
 - i. Herod was an Idumean; a descendant of Esau, named Herod the Great.
- d. The promise land was no longer in the hands of Israel.
- e. The ruler was no longer appointed by God
- f. The temple was no longer cared for by the prince of God;
- g. The priests of God were no longer the ministers of God; they were the servants of the secular world.

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B. The Word of God is sure!

- a. Although it seemed the scepter had departed from Judea, now it was time for Shiloh to come!
- b. God destined His coming in the counsel and foreknowledge of His will.

C. The Birth of Jesus Christ

- a. First there was the miraculous taxation.
 - i. The taxation was used by God to fulfill His plan for the birth of the Messiah.
 - ii. Scripture had to be fulfilled, and it had been prophesied that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem.

1. **Micah 5:2 (NKJV) (between Jonah & Nahum)**

- ² "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."

2. **Matthew 2:4-6 (KJV)**

- ⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

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

- 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, that shall rule my people Israel.

- iii. Luke 2:5 points out that the taxation happen just as Mary was great with child and they had to return to Bethlehem, even though they lived in Galilee.

- iv. Even the common people knew that the Messiah was to come from Bethlehem.

1. **John 7:40-42 (KJV)**

- ⁴⁰ Many of the people therefore, when they heard this saying, said, Of a truth this is the Prophet.

- ⁴¹ Others said, This is the Christ. But some said, Shall Christ come out of Galilee?

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⁴² Hath not the scripture said, That Christ cometh of the seed of David, and out of the town of Bethlehem, where David was?

- v. The taxation was an event wrought in the plan of God to fulfill Scripture.
- b. Why did Jesus have to be born in Bethlehem?
 - i. The Messiah was the prophesied Son of David
 - 1. Jesus was the Davidic heir, qualified to be the Messianic King.
 - a. **2 Samuel 7:12 (KJV)**
¹² And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.
 - b. **Psalms 132:11 (NKJV)**
¹¹ The LORD has sworn *in* truth to David; He will not turn from it: "I will set upon your throne the fruit of your body.
 - c. **Matthew 1:1 (KJV)**
¹ The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
- c. Lets look at how often Jesus was called the Son of David
 - i. **Matthew 12:23 (NKJV)**
²³ And all the multitudes were amazed and said, "Could this be the Son of David?"
 - ii. **Matthew 15:22 (NKJV)**
²² And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed."
 - iii. **Matthew 20:30-31 (NKJV)**
³⁰ And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!"
³¹ Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet;

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but they cried out all the more, saying, "Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!"

iv. **Matthew 21:9 (NKJV)**

⁹ Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna to the Son of David! *'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!'* Hosanna in the highest!"

v. **Matthew 21:15 (NKJV)**

¹⁵ But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant

vi. **Romans 1:3 (NKJV)**

³ concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh,

vii. **2 Timothy 2:8 (NKJV)**

⁸ Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel,

viii. **Revelation 22:16 (NKJV)**

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

d. Generation after generation of Jews looked for the promised deliverer of Israel.

e. The people expected him to be a great general who would deliver and restore the nation to greatness.

D. The word for "Christ" and "Messiah" is the same word: *christos*,

a. Messiah is the Hebrew word and Christ is the Greek word.

b. Both refer to the same Person and mean the same thing: *the Anointed One*.

c. The Messiah is the Anointed One of God.

d. Matthew says that Jesus is called "Christ"

i. **Matthew 1:16 (NKJV)**

¹⁶ And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ.

E. In the day of Jesus, people feverishly waited for the coming of the long-promised Messiah.

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- a. Many claimed to be the Messiah and led the gullible into rebellion against the Roman state.
 - i. Such as Barabbas
 - b. The Messiah was thought to be several things:
 - i. Nationally; the leader from David's line who would free the Jewish state and establish it as an independent nation, leading it to be the greatest nation the world had ever known.
 - ii. Militarily; a great military leader who would lead Jewish armies victoriously over all the world.
 - iii. Religiously, a supernatural figure straight from God who would bring righteousness over all the earth
 - iv. Personally, He was to be the One who would bring peace to the whole world.
 - c. Jesus accepted the title of Messiah on three different occasions.
 - i. **Matthew 16:16-17 (KJV)**
 - ¹⁶ And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.
 - ¹⁷ And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.
 - ii. **Mark 14:61-62 (KJV)**
 - ⁶¹ But he held his peace, and answered nothing. Again the high priest asked him, and said unto him, Art thou the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?
 - ⁶² And Jesus said, I am: and ye shall see the Son of man sitting on the right hand of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.
 - iii. **John 4:25-26 (KJV)**
 - ²⁵ The woman saith unto him, I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.
 - ²⁶ Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am *he*.
 - d. The name Jesus shows Him to be man.
 - e. The name Christ shows Him to be God's anointed, God own Son
- F. Christ is Jesus official title,
G. Identifies him as prophet

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a. **Deuteronomy 18:15-19 (NKJV)**

¹⁵ "The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,

¹⁶ according to all you desired of the LORD your God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, nor let me see this great fire anymore, lest I die.'

¹⁷ And the LORD said to me: 'What they have spoken is good.

¹⁸ I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.

¹⁹ And it shall be *that* whoever will not hear My words, which He speaks in My name, I will require *it* of him.

H. As Priest

a. **Psalms 110:4 (KJV)**

⁴ The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

I. As King

a. **2 Samuel 7:12-13 (KJV)**

¹² And when thy days be fulfilled, and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his kingdom.

¹³ He shall build an house for my name, and I will stablish the throne of his kingdom for ever.