# 19-Minute Bible Study

## Luke 2

**VERY IMPORTANT CHAPTERS**

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| Genesis 1 | Creation |
| Genesis 2 | Marriage |
| Genesis 3 | Fall into Sin |
| Genesis 4 | Cain and Abel |
| Genesis 6–9 | The Flood (2) |
| Genesis 11 | Tower of Babel |
| Genesis 12 | Abraham |
| Genesis 19 | Sodom and Gomorrah |
| Genesis 22 | Abraham Tested |
| Genesis 28 | Jacob's Ladder |
| Genesis 37 | Joseph's Coat of Many Colors |
| Genesis 41 | Joseph Rules |
| Exodus 2 | The Baby Moses |
| Exodus 3,4 | The Burning Bush |
| Exodus 12 | The Passover |
| Exodus 20 | The Ten Commandments |
| Joshua 6 | Jericho's Walls Come Tumbling Down |
| 1 Sam. 17 | David and Goliath |
| 2 Sam. 11,12 | David and Bathsheba (2) |
| 1 Kings 3 | Solomon's Wisdom |
| 2 Kings 2 | Chariots of Fire |
| Psalm 23 | The "Good Shepherd" Psalm |
| Psalm 121 | The "Hills" Psalm |
| Isaiah 53 | Christ Our Substitute |
| Matthew 5–7 | The Sermon on the Mount (2) |
| Matthew 18 | Church Discipline |
| **Luke 2** | **Christmas** |
| Luke 10 | The Good Samaritan |
| Luke 15 | The "Lost" Chapter |
| Luke 19 | Palm Sunday |
| Luke 22,23 | Maundy Thursday/ Good Friday (2) |
| Luke 24 | Easter |
| John 2 | Jesus' First Miracle |
| John 17 | Christ's High-Priestly Prayer |
| Acts 1 | Ascension |
| Acts 2 | Pentecost |
| Acts 9 | Saul's Conversion |
| Acts 16 | Paul in Philippi |
| Romans 3 | Righteous through Faith |
| Romans 8 | More than Conquerors |
| Romans 13 | Government |
| 1 Corin. 13 | "Agape Love" Chapter |
| 1 Corin. 15 | Paul's Great "Resurrection" Chapter |
| Ephesians 5 | Marriage |
| 2 Thess. 2 | The Antichrist |
| Hebrews 11 | Heroes of Faith |
| 2 Peter 3 | Christ's Second Coming |
| Rev. 21 | Heaven |

1 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree
that a census should be taken of the entire Roman
world. 2 (This was the first census that took place
while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And
everyone went to his own town to register. 4 So
Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in
Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of
David, because he belonged to the house and line
of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary,
who was pledged to be married to him and was
expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the
time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave
birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in
cloths and placed him in a manger, because there
was no room for them in the inn. 8 And there were
shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping
watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the
Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord
shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But
the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring
you good news of great joy that will be for all the
people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has
been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. 12 This
will be a sign to you: You will find a baby
wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."
13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host
appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,
14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace
to men on whom his favor rests." 15 When the
angels had left them and gone into heaven, the
shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to
Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has told us about." 16 So they hur-
ried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the
baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they
had seen him, they spread the word concerning
what had been told them about this child, 18 and all
who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds
said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these
things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The
shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God
for all the things they had heard and seen, which
were just as they had been told. 21 On the eighth
day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was
named Jesus, the name the angel had given him
before he had been conceived.

1. Saint Paul wrote, *When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons* (Galatians 4:4,5). Explain the phrase *When the time had fully come.*

2. What specific fulfillment of Old Testament Messianic prophecy do you see in this account?

3. Why were the shepherds terrified by the appearance of the angel? What significance do you see in the fact that the Savior's birth was announced first to these people?

4. Which words of the angel speak directly to your heart?

5. What thoughts do the following passages add to this lesson?

- *You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich* (2 Corinthians 8:9).

- *To us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace* (Isaiah 9:6).

- *The LORD said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites: 'A woman who becomes pregnant and gives birth to a son will be ceremonially unclean for seven days, just as she is unclean during her monthly period. On the eighth day the boy is to be circumcised'"* (Leviticus 12:1-3).

6. How does Mary serve as an example for us? How do the shepherds serve as examples?

7. If time permits, work together on the first exercise in the "At home" section below.

**Closing Prayer:**

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled
Within my heart, made clean and new,
A quiet chamber kept for you. Amen. (CW 38:13)

## Helps

(1) Answers will vary. God had so arranged world affairs that everything was "just right" for the coming of the Savior. Under Roman rule the world was at peace, spoke a common language, enjoyed a well-constructed system of roads—all of which would help the messengers of the gospel as they shared the news of a Savior with a darkened and dying world. (2) Answers will vary. Jesus was born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), of the line of David (Jeremiah 33:15,16), in humility and poverty (Isaiah 53:2,3). (3) The shepherds were terrified because they understood that they, sinful through and through, were in the presence of God's holy angels. The announcement to these men shows that God extends his grace to all people, even the most lowly and humble. (4) Answers will vary. Focus on the words *"you," "all the people,"* and *"peace to men on whom his favor rests."* (5) Second Corinthians 8:9—Jesus put aside the glory and power that were his as the almighty God in order to save us. Isaiah 9:6—In fulfillment of prophecy, Jesus, the promised Savior, entered our world as a human child; yet he remains *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God*. He is the God-man. Leviticus 12:1-3—As our substitute, Jesus came to fulfill the law perfectly in our place; in obedience to the Old Testament law, Jesus was circumcised. (6) Mary believed, *treasured up,* and meditated on God's Word and revelation. The shepherds too believed the message of salvation that came to them; they acted on it and then shared it with others.