

# Jesus' Birth: Its Unusual Events

Luke 02: 01-24

(Mt. 01:18-25; 02:01; see Jn. 01:14)

## 1 *The miraculous census*

- a. An event of the world used by God to fulfill His plan
  
- b. An event that forced Joseph to Bethlehem
  - 1) From Galilee
  - 2) Out of Nazareth
  - 3) Into Judea
  - 4) To the city of David, Bethlehem
- c. An event that led to the fulfillment of Scripture despite man's plans

## 2 *The shocking place of birth*

## 3 *The unbelievable appearance of a real angel to shepherds*

- a. His appearance:  
Shone in the glory of the Lord
  
- b. His message:  
Reassured - good news
  - 1) A proclamation:  
The Messiah's birth
  
  - 2) A charge: Visit the child
  
  - 3) A sign:  
The location and dress

- 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 Saviour 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."

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| <p><b>4</b> <i>The spectacular appearance of the heavenly host</i></p>  | <p>13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,</p> <p>14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favour rests.”</p>  |
| <p><b>5</b> <i>The excited shepherds seeking evidence</i></p> <p>a. They immediately decided to visit</p> <p>b. They rushed to see</p> <p>c. They excitedly shared the message</p> <p>d. They caused a stir</p> | <p>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.”</p> <p>16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.</p> <p>17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child,</p> <p>18 And all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.</p> |
| <p><b>6</b> <i>The awe-stricken, pondering mother</i></p>   | <p>19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.</p>  |
| <p><b>7</b> <i>The common, non-religious shepherds worshipping God</i></p>  | <p>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.</p>  |
| <p><b>8</b> <i>The unusual naming of the child: Named by God Himself</i></p>  | <p>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.</p>   |
| <p><b>9</b> <i>The unexpected observance of the legal ceremonies</i></p> <p>a. Circumcision</p> <p>b. Purification after childbirth</p> <p>c. Dedication to the Lord</p>  | <p>22 When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord</p> <p>23 (As it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”),</p>  |
| <p><b>10</b> <i>The deliberate choice of God to have a poor family bear His Son</i></p>   | <p>24 And to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.”</p>   |