

Like 2:11 Deaf Church
"Jesus Our Savior is Born" 12-18-2022

1. Introduction

a. Context: verses 1-20

- Jesus born in Bethlehem (vs. 1-7)
- Angel tells shepherds (vs. 8-20)

b. Why is Bethlehem called "City of David"?

- King David born & raised in & around Bethlehem
- Joseph, Mary's husband, of house & lineage of David (vs 4)

c. Mary also descendent of David (Lk 3:23)

2. Roman government orders taxation³⁸

a. Process (vs. 1-3)

- during reign of Caesar Augustus
- census of population of Roman empire
- everyone had to return to primary location of family clan

b. Joseph takes his pregnant wife to Bethlehem (vs. 4-5)

- Joseph was descendent of King David

* Israel's former royal house

c. Roman government also had a tax in population registration

2. Young poor married couple must pay tax

a. Bethlehem about 70 miles from Nazareth (112 km)

b. Mary very pregnant

c. They stayed for many days/ weeks in Bethlehem

d. Mary was not inside shelter of the inn (ancient motel)

- city overflowing with people
- only place to stay: in animal stable
- people with money could pay

3. Virgin Mary goes into labor
 - a. Labor pains start while living in stable
 - b. Scriptures does not say how many days/weeks couple was in Bethlehem before her labor started
 - "days were completed"
 - c. First child birth pangs take many hours (sometimes 1-3 days)
 - d. Mary gave birth (Mt 1:25)
Joseph named the baby Jesus
4. Angel of the Lord announces Savior's birth (vs. 8-20)
 - a. Angel of the Lord came to shepherds in the field in bright shining light
 - it was at night
 - the spectacle frightened the shepherds out of their minds
 - b. Angel gives good news
 - Don't be afraid
 - Savior who is Christ the Lord is born today
 - baby wrapped in swaddling clothes laying in a manger (animal feed trough)
 - c. Suddenly heavenly beings praising God
 - "Glory to God in the highest. And on earth, peace, good will toward men."
 - God's peace & good will to men
 - d. God sent his angel to poor working men (not wealthy people or rulers)
5. But Mary remembered & thought about these things
 - Lk 2:19 kept in Mary's heart
 - Lk 2:33 Joseph & Mary amazed