

The Life of Christ A-Z

Angels Announce and Birth in Bethlehem

ANGELS ANNOUNCE (The Pregnancy)

Luke 1:26-38/Matthew 1:18-25

BIRTH in BETHLEHEM (ala Micah 5:2)

Luke 2:1-7

CARPENTRY CAREER (in Nazareth)

Matthew 2:23/Mark 6:3

DOVE DESCENDS (The Baptism)

Matthew 3:1-17/Luke 3:21-23

ENEMY ENTICES (The Temptation)

Matthew 4:1-11/Luke 4:1-13

FIRST FOLLOWERS ("Japan")

John 1:35-51

GREAT GUESTS (1st Miracle: Water to Wine)

John 2:1-11

HARSH HOUSECLEANING (of the Temple)

John 2:13-22

INCREDIBLE INTERVIEW (w/Nicodemus)

John 3:1-21

JIVE at JACOB'S WELL (w/Samaritan Woman)

John 4:1-42

KIN KICKOUT (of Nazareth)

Luke 4:16-30

LOCATION LATERALED (to Capernaum)

Matthew 4:13-16

MARVELLOUS MESSAGE (Sermon on the Mount)

Matthew 5:1-7:29

NATURE NEUTRALIZED ("Sign" Miracles)

Matthew 8:1-12:13

OPPOSITION OFFERED (No More "Signs")

Matthew 12:14-45/Mark 3:22-30

PARABLES PROPHECY (InterAdvent Period)

Matthew 13:1-52

QUIZICAL QUESTIONS (Who Am I?)

Matthew 16:13-20

REALITY REVEALED (The Transfiguration)

Matthew 17:1-13

STONING STOPPED (Jesus Claims Deity)

John 10:22-42

TOMB TRAUMATIZED (Raising of Lazarus)

John 11:1-53

UNDERSTANDABLE UPSET (of t/Temple)

Matthew 21:12-17/Mark 11:2-18

VISION OF VICTORY (Olivet Discourse)

Matthew 24:1-25:46

WASHING and WISDOM (Upper Room Discourse)

John 13:1-17:26

eXIATORY eXECUTION (The Atonement)

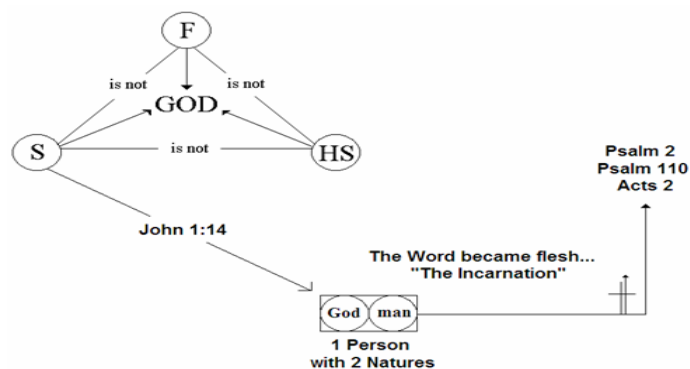
Matthew 27:27-66/John 19:17-42

YES! YEAH! (The Resurrection)

Matthew 28:1-15/John 20:1-21:25

ZAPPED from ZION (The Ascension)

Luke 24:50-53/Acts 1:6-11



John 1:1 and 1:14

In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God...
...the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Angels Announce

The Pregnancies of John the Baptizing Jewish Prophet (AKA: John the Baptist) and Jesus the Jewish Messiah/Savior of the World

Angels Announce Luke 1:5-25

The super-normal conception of John the Baptizing Jewish Prophet is announced to his father, Zacharias the Priest while ministering in the Temple/Jerusalem

The initial response of Zacharias: Skeptical/categorical disbelief

Angels Announce Luke 1:26-56

The supernatural conception of Jesus the Christ to His physical mother, Mary the fiancé of Joseph a tekton (skilled worker in wood and/or stone) in Nazareth

The initial response of Mary: Faith that sought additional/legitimate information

Angels Announce Matthew 1:18-25

The supernatural conception of Jesus the Christ is announced to His legal father Joseph in Nazareth but only after Mary his fiancé has returned from a multi-month trip out of town to visit her relative Elizabeth-the mother of John the Baptizing Jewish Prophet.

The initial response of Joseph: Faith that responded in immediate obedience

Three different believers (Zacharias, Mary and Joseph)...

...three different initial responses to significant Words from God

Birth in Bethlehem

Fulfilling Literally the Prophecy of Micah 5:2, Followed Many Months Later by a Visit by Iraqi Astronomers

Birth in Bethlehem-Luke 2:1-5

The providential setting (Micah 5:2): Roman Emperor Augustus had decreed a census for tax purposes of the Empire (the one which took place in Israel before Quirinius was the Governor of Syria). This required Joseph/Mary to travel from Nazareth/Galilee to Bethlehem/Judea late in her pregnancy because both of them were of the physical line of King David.

Birth in Bethlehem Luke 2:6-7

The “normal” birth of the supernaturally conceived baby Jesus (the God-Man) took place in a stable (not a palace) and the newborn was cradled in an animal’s feed trough (not a golden crib), wrapped up like a corpse.

Birth in Bethlehem Luke 2:8-20

The spectacular proclamation of the birth of the long awaited Christ by angels was to “average” working folks just outside of Bethlehem. Many/most of the sheep these shepherds were overseeing (Psalm 23) would be offered up as Passover sacrifices just a few months after this.

Many Months AFTER the Birth in Bethlehem Matthew 2:1-20

Iraqi Astronomers came to Bethlehem led by a “star” (αστηρ aster = a bright object in the sky-here a point of light similar to the “pillar of fire” God used to lead the Jews in the Wilderness) to worship the King of the Jews. Their gifts would have financed the “flight” to Egypt to escape the murderous plot of King Herod.

Take This To Heart

God will work directly/indirectly, supernaturally/super-normally and providentially to accomplish His purposes...and yet this process also involves our personal responses to His Word/His will.

None of us has the place of Mary/Joseph in the big picture of God’s program, but each one of us has a central role to play in smaller pieces in that program....our family, our church, our career, our state/nation.

Jesus

die

wants
love

things

Father

taught

away

whoever

righteous

judge

believes

leads

another

give

know

life

disciples

believe

defile

also

world

words

man

quote

Spirit

body

heart

Therefore

right

men

rest

truth

gate

pass

testified

eternal

earth

come

treasures

A

Z

ATWUs = Abstract Thought Warmers Uppers

Last week, a man fell into an upholstery machine...

...the good thing is he is now fully recovered!

A backward poet...

...writes inverse!

A chicken crossing the road is...

...poultry in motion!

In democracy, it's your vote that counts...

...in feudalism, it's your Count that votes!

When a clock is hungry...

...it goes back four seconds!

Life of Christ A-Z

1 Savior

4 Gospels

26 Events

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BIRTH in BETHLEHEM (ala Micah 5:2)

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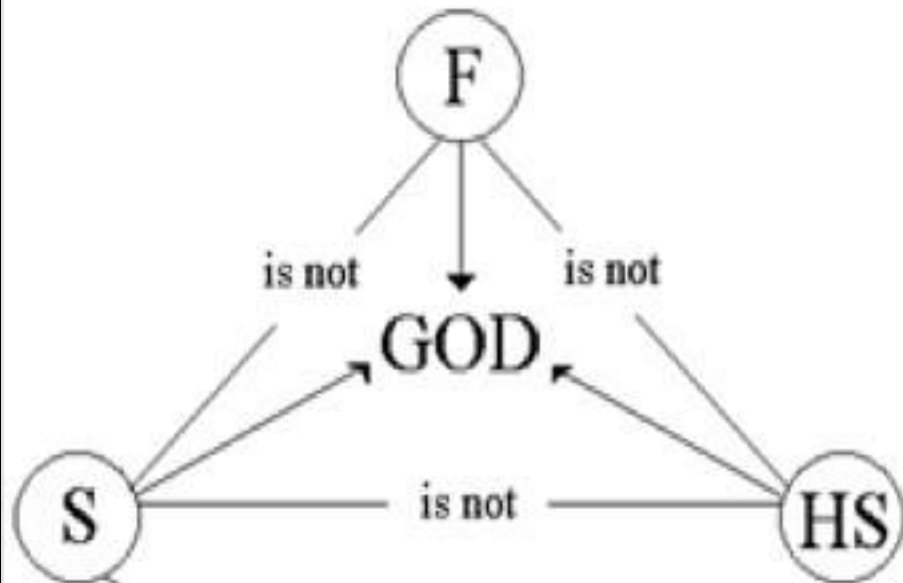
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The Babe in the
Manger Was the
God-Man-Savior



John 1:14

The Word became flesh...
"The Incarnation"



1 Person
with 2 Natures

Psalm 2
Psalm 110
Acts 2



Instead of Giving
Us Stuff

God Gave Us
Himself

Angels Announce

Luke 1:5-25

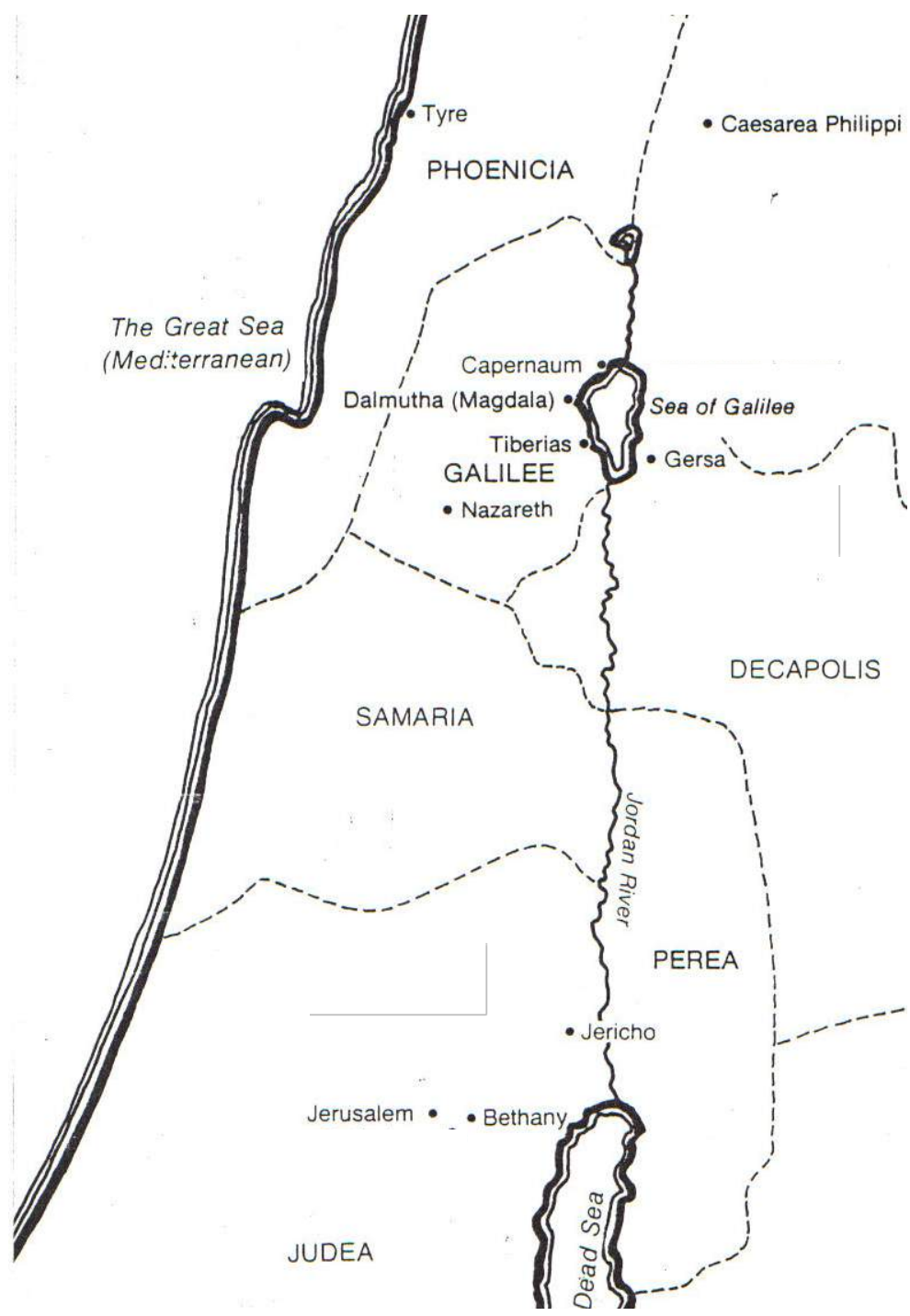
Zacharias: Skeptical/Categorical Dis-Belief

Luke 1:26-56

Mary: Faith That Sought More Legitimate Info

Matthew 1:18-25

Joseph: Faith That Led to Immediate Obedience



Birth in Bethlehem

Luke 2:1-5


Setting: The Little Town of Bethlehem

Luke 2:6-7

Normal/Humble Birth of THE Savior

Luke 2:8-20

Supernatural Proclamation to "Average" Folks
Looking Over Passover Lambs

The background image is a night scene of a small town, likely Bethlehem, nestled in a desert landscape. The town's lights are visible, and a large, bright star is prominent in the dark sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
though you are small among the
clans of Judah, out of you will
come for me one who will be ruler
over Israel, whose origins are from
of old, from ancient times."

- Micah 5:2

The Bible

A SYNTHETIC OVERVIEW



ONE MAJOR PREMISE:

All Humans are Sinners/Die...

ONE MAJOR PROMISE:

...the Savior is Coming!

ONE MAJOR PREMISE:

Jesus of Nazareth is the Savior/Alive...

ONE MAJOR PROMISE:

...the Savior is Coming Back!

Who?

Gen 3:15
Gen 3:15
Gen 9:25-27
Gen 12:1-3
Gen 49: 10
2S 7:12-13
Isa 7:14

Human Being
Male
Semite
Abraham-Isaac-Jacob
Tribe of Judah
Family of David
Son of a Virgin

Where?

Specific Birthplace

Micah 5:2

Jesus of
Nazareth

When?

Specific TimeFrame

Dan 9:25-26

What?

He Will be Killed
and Later Est the Kingdom
He Will be Crucified

Dan 9:26

Psa 22:1-18

Why?

His Death Will be a
Substitutionary Atonement

Isa 53:4-11



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Birth in Bethlehem

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Normal/Humble Birth of THE Savior

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Supernatural Proclamation to "Average" Folks
Looking Over Passover Lambs

Luke 2

The Night of the Birth

1: Incarnation in a Manger

2: Heavenly Signal to
Humble Shepherds

Matthew 2

AFTER the Birth

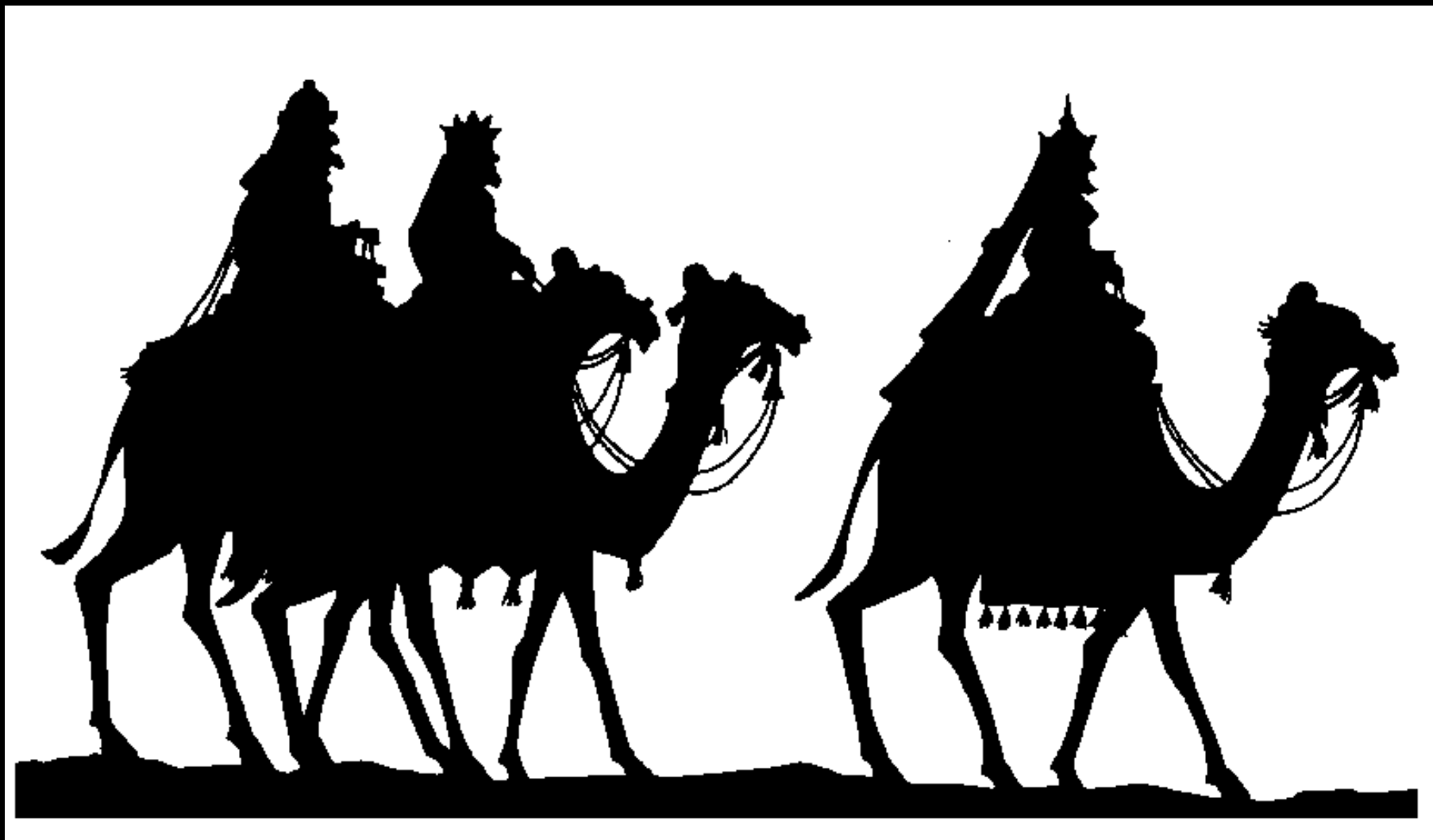
1: Babylonian Big-Shots

Come in Devotion

2: King Herod Plots

To Destroy Baby Jesus

Matthew 2:1-20



Birth in Bethlehem

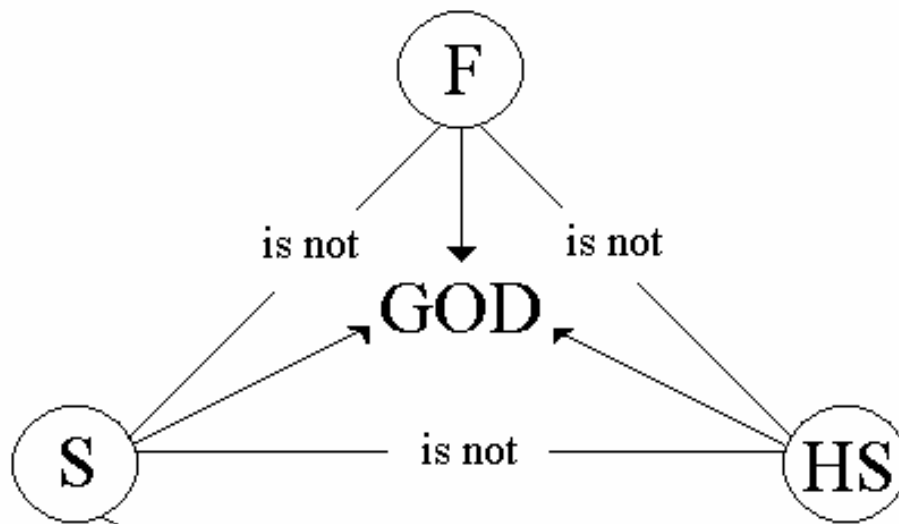
Matthew 2:1-12

"Now **after** Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, Magi from the East arrived in Jerusalem asking "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?"

The Babe in the
Manger Was the
God-Man-Savior

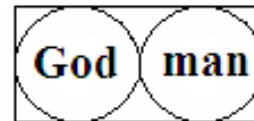
The Incarnation

"The Word Became Flesh"



John 1:14

The Word became flesh...
"The Incarnation"



1 Person
with 2 Natures

Psalm 2
Psalm 110
Acts 2





Because Christ Died FOR Our Sins...
...We Don't Have to Die IN Our Sins
Tetelestai (It is Finished = Paid in Full!)