

# The History of Christmas

1 Real "Real Meaning" 2 Biblical Passages 3 Key Names/Titles

## ONE Real "Real Meaning" of Christmas

The babe in that manger was/is the God-Man-Savior

## TWO Biblical Passages for Christmas

Which must be historically correlated...many Christmas Cards don't do this

### Matthew 1:1-2:23

Begins the 1<sup>st</sup> section of his Gospel (1:1-17) with the LEGAL genealogy of our Lord through his LEGAL father-Joseph starting from Abraham: this genealogy validates the fact Jesus qualifies to be the Jewish Messiah.

### Luke 1:5-2:40

Ends the 1<sup>st</sup> section of his Gospel (3:23-3:38) with the PHYSICAL genealogy of our Lord through his PHYSICAL mother-Mary starting with Adam: this genealogy shows Jesus qualifies to be the Greek ideal/concept of "The Perfect Man".

1:5-25 The angel Gabriel appears to the priest Zacharias in Jerusalem announcing the soon to be natural conception of his son who is to be named "John" and who will be the Messianic forerunner (ala Isaiah and Malachi) and born to his previously barren/aging wife-Elizabeth.

1:26-38 Several months later, Gabriel comes to Mary in Nazareth and announces her soon to be supernatural conception/pregnancy of a Son-the Messiah who is to be named "Jesus".

1:39-55 Mary travels south and visits her relative Elizabeth who is then six months pregnant with John. Mary remains for three months-until just before John's birth.

1:56 Mary returns to Nazareth-visibly pregnant.

1:18 Mary is found to be pregnant after having been out of town for over three months.  
1:19 Joseph assumes the obvious and plans to quietly dissolve the engagement.

1:20-25 An angel tells Joseph that Mary's is the result of a supernatural conception-the baby is the Messiah and is to be named "Jesus".

### The Night of the Birth

2:1-20 Joseph and Mary forced to travel south to Bethlehem due to a Roman tax census and Jesus is born there in a stable. Immediately after this angels appear to local shepherds outside the "little town" who go quickly to investigate.

### 8 Days after the Birth

2:21 The baby is circumcised and formally named "Jesus" when He is eight days old.

### 40 Days after the Birth

2:22-38 Jesus, is presented in the Temple (according to the OT Law concerning firstborn sons-Exodus 13:2) and while there He is worshipped by Simeon and Anna.

### 12-18 Months After the Birth

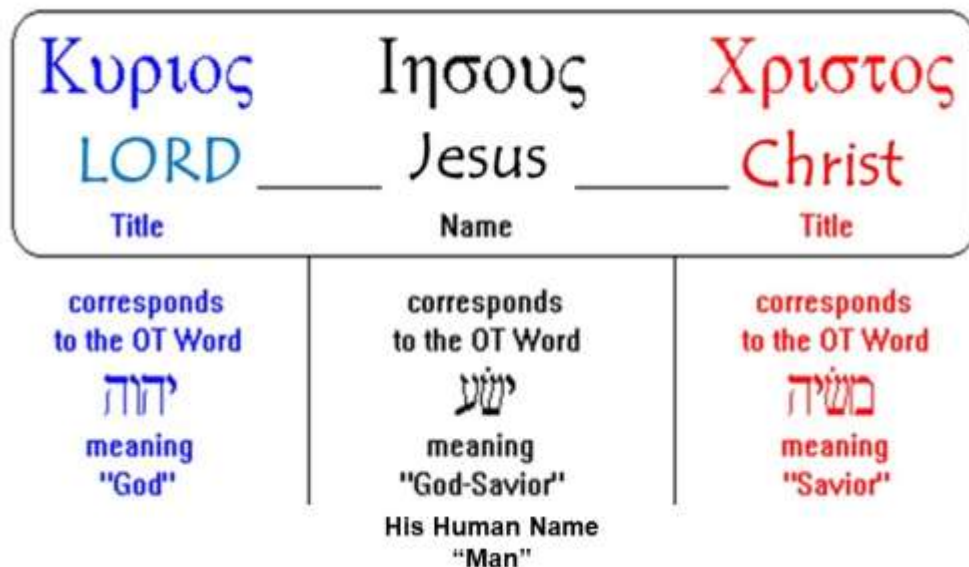
2:1-12 Jesus is worshipped in Bethlehem by Babylonian "Wise Men/Magi" who arrive via Jerusalem following the light of the Shekinah glory to the house (not a stable) where the family is now living.

2:13-18 Joseph is warned by an angel in a dream to leave Bethlehem immediately and to go into Egypt to avoid the wrath of the paranoid King Herod.

2:19-23 After Herod's death, an angel tells Joseph that he is to take the Child and His mother back to Israel/Nazareth.

2:39-40 Joseph, Mary, and Jesus return to the parents' home town of Nazareth.

## THREE Key Titles for Jesus Emphasized at Christmas



# Take This To Heart

## **The Real “Real Meaning” of Christmas**

The Babe in That Manger Was/Is the God-Man-Savior

## **The Three Persons of the Trinity and the Plan of Salvation**

God the Father: The Architect of the Plan-The Sender

God the Son: The Active Agent of the Plan-The Sendee

God the Holy Spirit: The Activating Agent of the Plan-The Sealer

## **Three Truths in John 3:16 That YOUR World Needs to Hear**

1: God Loves the World

2: God Gave His Son to be the Savior of the World

3: God Gives E-Life to Everyone in the World Who Believes in the Savior

## **The Ultimate Cause/Result of Christmas**

### **A Paraphrase of John 3:16-18**

God the Father loved the world so much with the result: He actually sent His unique Son-the God-Man-Savior-the Son of God/the Son of Man for the purpose that all of the ones who believe in Him will never perish (2<sup>nd</sup> Death) but have as a present abiding possession-everlasting life. Keep in mind, God the Father did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him-based on Him and His Work: SAS/LBSR. The one who believes in the Son will never be judged; the one who does not believe stands judged already, because s/he has not believed in the name of the unique Son of God-as the Exclusive Issue and the Exclusive Issuer of Everlasting Life.