

THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

A STUNNINGLY SIMPLE, POWERFUL & ORDERLY ACCOUNT

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem

...

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.

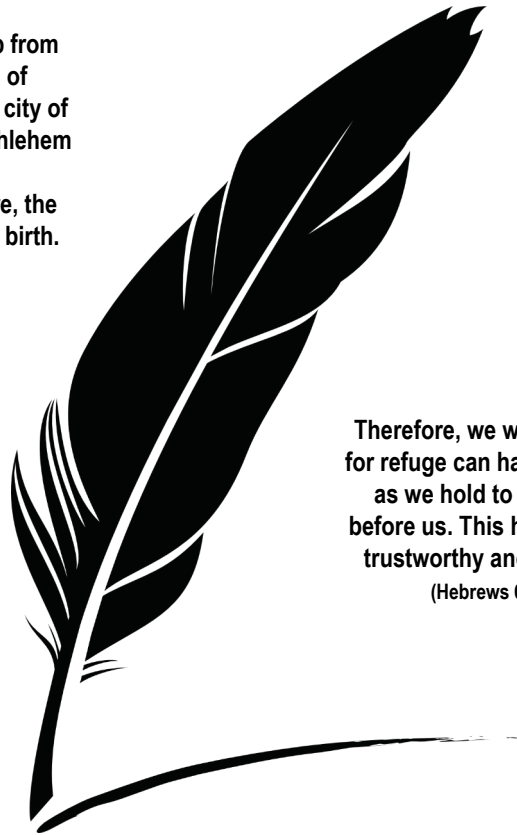
(Luke 2:4a, 6 ESV)

And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

(Luke 2:7 ESV)

Therefore, we who have fled to him for refuge can have great confidence as we hold to the hope that lies before us. This hope is a strong and trustworthy anchor for our souls.

(Hebrews 6:18b–19a NLT)



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- (Luke 1:1–4 NLT) Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. 2 They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. 3 Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, most honorable Theophilus, 4 so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught.
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SIMPLE: THE TIME CAME FOR HER TO GIVE BIRTH
... AND SO SHE DID ...

ONE WAY TO PEACE WITH GOD—JESUS IS HIS NAME ...

I. JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN ON EARTH AS A HUMAN TO A YOUNG, VIRGIN WOMAN NAMED MARY.

- (Luke 2:1–7 ESV) In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 **And she gave birth to her firstborn son** and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

A. Under the sovereign, providential care of God Almighty Mary successfully gave birth to baby Jesus.

B. Jesus Son of God lived inside Mary for nine months in the very fragile state of an infant boy.

A note on amniotic fluid and the birth of Jesus Son of God ... Jesus was born a human via a normal human birth. While a baby is in the womb, it is situated within the amniotic sac, a bag formed of two membranes, the amnion, and the chorion. The fetus grows and develops inside this sac, surrounded by amniotic fluid. So for about the first nine months of his

life on Earth this is where Jesus Son of God lived—in amniotic fluid within the amniotic sac. Amniotic fluid has many important functions and is vital for healthy fetal development. It is responsible for protecting the fetus, temperature control, infection control, lung and digestive system development, muscle and bone development, lubrication and umbilical cord support.

C. Mary gave birth even though the god of this world—the great dragon, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan—attempted to destroy him at birth.

- (2 Corinthians 4:4 ESV) In their case **the god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
- (Revelation 12:9 ESV) And the great **dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world**—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.
- (Revelation 12:4–5 ESV) His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. **And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it.** 5 **She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron,** but her child was caught up to God and to his throne.

II. JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN WHEN GOD HAD DETERMINED.

- (Luke 2:1 ESV) In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.
- (Luke 2:6 ESV) And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth.

God moved in the affairs of their everyday lives to direct Joseph and Mary to Bethlehem when it was time for the birth of Christ the Lord. Caesar Augustus like every other world leader past, present and future was merely an errand boy, a pawn, in the hand of God Most High.

III. JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN WHERE GOD HAD DETERMINED.

- A. He was born in Bethlehem.
- B. Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem from Nazareth for the birth.
- C. This is not where they lived but it is where the prophets said the Messiah would be born.
 - (Micah 5:2 NLT) But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel whose origins are in the distant past, will come from you on my behalf.
- D. This brought about confusion and division in those who were not diligent in handling God's word to correctly understand the Scriptures.
 - (2 Timothy 2:15 ESV) Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.
 - (John 7:40–44 ESV) When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This really is the Prophet." 41 Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? 42 Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" 43 So there was a division among the people over him. 44 Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.
- E. Note that those who protested his identity as "the Christ" appealed to Scripture that on the surface supported their opposition.

IV. JESUS CHRIST WAS BORN A SAVIOR.

- (Luke 2:8–11 ESV) And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

V. JESUS CHRIST WAS LORD AT HIS BIRTH.

- (Luke 2:11 ESV) For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

VI. JESUS CHRIST WOULD PROVIDE THE ONLY WAY OF PEACE AND FAVOR WITH GOD.

- (Luke 2:12–14 ESV) And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"
- A. He did not bring the peace this world craves and desires—the good things of God but without God.
 - (Matthew 10:34–39 ESV) Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. 35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. 36 And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. 37 Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
 - B. He brought peace that was hidden from the eyes of those who did not know the things that make for peace.

- (Luke 19:41–42 ESV) And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, 42 saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day **the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes.**”
- (Romans 3:17–18 ESV) **And the way of peace they have not known.** 18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.
- (Romans 8:6–7 ESV) For **to set the mind on the flesh is death,** but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. 7 For **the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot.**

C. He brought his peace.

- (John 14:27 ESV) **Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.** Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.
- (John 16:33 ESV) I have said these things to you, **that in me you may have peace.** In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

D. He brought peace that made for true peace—peace with God.

- (Romans 5:1 ESV) **Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

E. He brought peace **with** God that yields the peace of God.

- (Galatians 5:22–23 ESV) **But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace,** patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.
- (Ephesians 4:2–3 ESV) With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain **the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**
- (Philippians 4:7 ESV) **And the peace of God,** which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- (James 3:17–18 ESV) But the wisdom from above is first pure, then **peaceable,** gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

F. The proper response to the announcement of the birth of Christ is to see and make known the message.

- (Luke 2:15–17 ESV) When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. 17 **And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them** concerning this child.

G. The proper response to hearing and seeing the message is glory and praise to God.

- (Luke 2:18–20 ESV) And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. 20 **And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen,** as it had been told them.

VII. JESUS IS THE ONLY NAME UNDER HEAVEN BY WHICH WE CAN BE SAVED.

- (Luke 2:21 ESV) And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, **he was called Jesus,** the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.
- (Acts 4:11–12 ESV) **This Jesus** is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become **the cornerstone.** 12 And **there is salvation in no one else,** for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.