

What can we learn from the birth of Jesus the Christ?

Date: Sunday, December 16, 2018

Message by: Virgil Moore

Focus: Before the birth of Jesus, Jesus' birth, and right after Jesus' birth

Scripture: Matthew 1:17-25; Matthew 2; Luke 1:26-45; Luke 2:1-40

If you have something that you would like to share about what you have learned/gleaned from the birth of Jesus please email or text me: **Email:** virgilmoore@hotmail.com or text 434-213-5626

Opening Video: <https://youtu.be/VQmz5699DPQ>

Dispelling some myths:

- Jesus was not born on December 25th
- The matter of the inn with “no room” is one of the most historically misunderstood aspects of the Christmas story.
- Where Luke has shepherds visit the baby, a symbol of Jesus's importance for ordinary folk, Matthew has magi (wise men) from the east bring Jesus royal gifts.
- Notably absent from these biblical accounts is Mary riding a donkey and animals gathered around the baby Jesus
- The magi visit Jesus in a house (not an inn or stable) and their visit is as late as two years after the birth. Matthew 2:16 records King Herod's orders to kill baby boys up to the age of two based on the report about Jesus's age from the magi. This delay is why most Christian churches celebrate the visit of the magi on “Epiphany” or January 6.

1. God fulfills his prophecies and promises.

- i. Micah prophesied that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem (Mic. 5:2)

- ii. Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
- iii. Genesis tell us that Jesus would be born as a descendant of Abraham (Genesis 22:18)

2. No Word from God will ever fail! (Luke 1: 37)

3. Favor ain't fair! (Luke 1:28) God found favor in an ordinary woman, Mary.

- a. The phrase *highly favored* comes from a single Greek word (**5487. Charitoó**), which essentially means “much grace.” Mary received God’s grace.

4. Do not despise humble beginnings. Jesus was born and placed in an animal trough. (Luke 2:7)

- a. Zechariah 4:10; Job 8:7

5. Family Matters don't Matter!

6. All are welcomed in the birth of Christ.

7. The divide between the spiritual and physical becomes non-existent.

- a. Yet, as Paul says the Greek philosophers, “In Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). He is not outside of His creation and occasionally has to inject Himself into it. Creation is in Him.

8. We can see what God looks like.

- a. Jesus said, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9) and “For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise” (John 5:19)

9. God works in the ordinary.

10. Without the birth, there is no Cross and Resurrection.

What can we learn from the birth of Jesus the Christ?

Date: Sunday, December 16, 2018

Message by: Virgil Moore

Focus: Before the birth of Jesus, Jesus' birth, and right after Jesus' birth

Scripture: Matthew 1:17-25; Matthew 2; Luke 1:26-45; Luke 2:1-40

If you have something that you would like to share about what you have learned/gleaned from the birth of Jesus please email or text me: **Email:** virgilmoore@hotmail.com or text 434-213-5626

Opening Video: <https://youtu.be/VQmz5699DPQ>

Dispelling some myths:

- Jesus was not born on December 25th
- The matter of the inn with “no room” is one of the most historically misunderstood aspects of the Christmas story.
- Where Luke has shepherds visit the baby, a symbol of Jesus's importance for ordinary folk, Matthew has magi (wise men) from the east bring Jesus royal gifts.
- Notably absent from these biblical accounts is Mary riding a donkey and animals gathered around the baby Jesus
- The magi visit Jesus in a house (not an inn or stable) and their visit is as late as two years after the birth. Matthew 2:16 records King Herod's orders to kill baby boys up to the age of two based on the report about Jesus's age from the magi. This delay is why most Christian churches celebrate the visit of the magi on “Epiphany” or January 6.

1. God fulfills his prophecies and promises.

- i. Micah prophesied that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem (Mic. 5:2)

- ii. Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14)
- iii. Genesis tell us that Jesus would be born as a descendant of Abraham (Genesis 22:18)

2. No Word from God will ever fail! (Luke 1: 37)

3. Favor ain't fair! (Luke 1:28) God found favor in an ordinary woman, Mary.

- a. The phrase *highly favored* comes from a single Greek word (**5487. Charitoó**), which essentially means “much grace.” Mary received God’s grace.

4. Do not despise humble beginnings. Jesus was born and placed in an animal trough. (Luke 2:7)

- a. Zechariah 4:10; Job 8:7

5. Family Matters don't Matter!

6. All are welcomed in the birth of Christ.

7. The divide between the spiritual and physical becomes non-existent.

- a. Yet, as Paul says the Greek philosophers, “In Him we live and move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). He is not outside of His creation and occasionally has to inject Himself into it. Creation is in Him.

8. We can see what God looks like.

- a. Jesus said, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9) and “For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise” (John 5:19)

9. God works in the ordinary.

10. Without the birth, there is no Cross and Resurrection.