

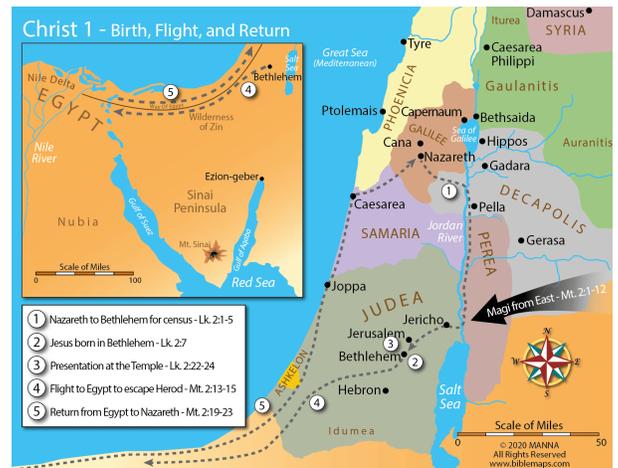
Luke 2

The Birth & Childhood of Jesus

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Sunday, January 18

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



Luke 2:8-14 describes a glorious announcement made of this birth to some shepherds who were out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night: "Unto you is born this day in the city of David a _____, who is _____ the Lord."

And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called _____, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. (2:21)

"Jesus" is the equivalent of *Yeshua* (Joshua) in Hebrew. The name communicated by the angel means, "_____."

At the time prescribed by the Law of Moses (Lev 12:1-4), they brought Jesus up to Jerusalem and while they were there, they had two incredible interactions:

- ❖ _____ (2:22-35)
- ❖ _____ (2:36-38)

Finally, Luke tells us about Jesus growing in Nazareth (2:39-40) and making an eventful trip when he was twelve years old to Jerusalem where he described the temple as "my _____ house" (2:41-52).

How does Luke 2 help us grow in certainty about Jesus? Let's talk about it...

For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ **Luke 2** describes several circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth. Did it "just so happen" that Jesus was born in Bethlehem? What can we learn from Luke's description of the way these events unfolded?

- ▶ "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (**2:11**). Each one of those words is important. What do they communicate?
 - Savior -
 - Christ -
 - The Lord -

- ▶ As you process the details surrounding Jesus' birth, what stands out to you? How should these details impact the way we think of him? His purpose? His mission?

- ▶ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" (**2:14**). Of all the things the heavenly host could proclaim, why this?

- ▶ **Luke 2:22-24** tells us what was done in accordance with "the Law of Moses" in **Leviticus 12:1-8**. What glimpse are we given into the circumstances of Joseph and Mary in light of **Leviticus 12:8**?

- ▶ What can we learn from the incredible encounter of Joseph and Mary with Simeon in **Luke 2:25-35**? And with Anna in **2:36-38**?

- ▶ What do we learn about Jesus from Luke's account of the trip to Jerusalem in **2:41-52**? How does it set the stage for what is to come in the rest of Luke's narrative?

- ▶ Remember the goal of Luke's Gospel—"that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught" (**1:4**). How does **Luke 2** help us grow in certainty about Jesus?