
To Teach Us the Ways of the Master

A night scene of a town with a bright star in the sky and a beam of light shining down on a building. The background is a dark night sky with a bright star in the center, emitting a beam of light that illuminates a building in the foreground. The town is visible in the distance, with lights from buildings and streets. The overall scene is dark, with the star and beam of light providing the primary illumination.

THE
MESSIAH'S
MISSION

Luke 2:1-20

Luke 2:1

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire.

Luke 2:2

(This was the first census taken
when Quirinius was governor
of Syria.)

Luke 2:3

All returned to their own
ancestral towns to register
for this census.

Luke 2:4

And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee.

Luke 2:5

He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.

Luke 2:6

**And while they were there,
the time came for her baby
to be born.**

Luke 2:7

She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

What day, month,
and year does the
Bible say Jesus
was born?

**How many
birthday parties
occur in the
Bible?**

2 Birthdays

- **Genesis 40:20-23 – Pharaoh chops off his chief baker's head during his birthday party.**
- **Luke 3:19-20 – King Herod chopped off John the Baptist's head at his step-daughter's request.**

**According to the
Bible, what did
Jesus look like?**

Isaiah 53:2

My servant grew up in the Lord's presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him.

Isaiah 52:14

But many were amazed when they saw him. His face was so disfigured he seemed hardly human, and from his appearance, one would scarcely know he was a man.

**According to the
Bible, when did
Christians celebrate
the first Christmas?**

**Who initiated the
celebration of
Christmas? Why did
they do so?**

Where in the Bible do we
find the Christmas
traditions we celebrate
such as Christmas trees,
egg nog, giving each other
presents, mistletoe,
reindeer, etc?

**Who was present
the night of Jesus'
birth, according to
the Bible?**

Luke 2:7

She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.

Luke 2:8

**That night there were shepherds
staying in the fields nearby,
guarding their flocks of sheep.**

Luke 2:9

**Suddenly, an angel of the Lord
appeared among them,
and the radiance of the Lord's
glory surrounded them.
They were terrified,**

Luke 2:10

but the angel reassured them.
“Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring
you good news that will bring
great joy to all people.

Luke 2:11

**The Savior—yes, the Messiah,
the Lord—has been born today
in Bethlehem, the city of David!**

Luke 2:12

And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.”

Luke 2:13

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

Luke 2:14

“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

Luke 2:15

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

Luke 2:16

**So they hurried off and found
Mary and Joseph, and the baby,
who was lying in the manger.**

Matthew 2:1

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem

Matthew 2:2

and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

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The background of the slide is a night scene of a town. In the center, a bright star with a four-pointed cross-like pattern shines in the dark sky. A beam of light from this star shines down onto a building in the town. The town is illuminated with lights, and mountains are visible in the distance under a starry night sky.

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**What are Some
of the Biblical
Principles of
Christ's Birth?**

Principle #1

The extremely simple and humble arrival of the Master demonstrates His heart and character regarding what He views as being essential for every human life.

Principle #2

God chose the humblest birth for His entry into the world in order to show us that the central value of life, is a life committed to loving, obeying, and fulfilling the will of the Master.

**Our true worth and significance is
not based on where we come
from, who our family is,
how much money we have,
our societal status, our successes,
or even our mistakes,
it is based on who we are
in relationship to God.**

Principle #3

The ways of the Master are meant to contrast His way of doing things upside down and backwards with the ways of the world, our culture, and even the way we Christians do things.

Principle #4

In the Kingdom of God it is very common for the Master's work to go on quietly and unnoticed in what the world would consider to be hidden and otherwise insignificant people and places.

Principle #5

Those on whom God's favor rests are more often than not ordinary people with ordinary lives who choose to make the most of each day by faithfully and intentionally offering their lives as a living sacrifice to God.

Principle #6

The Messiah's Mission was to come to us, to reveal God to us, to identify with us, to minister to us, to disciple us, to take our sins upon Himself, to die for us, to be raised from the dead for us, to save us, and to be in relationship with us.

Principle #7

While there is much to learn about the ways of the Master thru His arrival into the world; it is His life, ministry, sacrifice, and resurrection that set Him apart as the one true Master.

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