



Part 5

**Now that You Know
What Will You Do?**

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.**

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 and said, “Don’t be afraid! 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 2:15a

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

Luke 2:15b

“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.

Luke 2:17

After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child.

Luke 2:18-19

All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often.

Luke 2:20

The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen.

It was just as the angel had told them.

Luke 2:21

Eight days later, when the baby was circumcised, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel even before he was conceived.

Luke 2:22

Then it was time for their purification offering, as required by the law of Moses after the birth of a child; so his parents took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord.

Luke 2:23

**The law of the Lord says,
“If a woman’s first child is a boy,
he must be dedicated to the Lord.”**

Luke 2:24

So they offered the sacrifice required in the law of the Lord—
“either a pair of turtledoves
or two young pigeons.”

Luke 2:25

At that time there was a man in Jerusalem named Simeon. He was righteous and devout and was eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and rescue Israel.

Luke 2:26

The Holy Spirit was upon him and had revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Lord's Messiah.

Luke 2:27

That day the Spirit led him to the Temple. So when Mary and Joseph came to present the baby Jesus to the Lord as the law required, Simeon was there.

Luke 2:28

**He took the child in his arms
and praised God, saying,**

Luke 2:29

**“Sovereign Lord, now let your
servant die in peace, as you
have promised.**

Luke 2:30-31

**I have seen your salvation, which
you have prepared for all people.**

Luke 2:32

He is a light to reveal God to the nations, and he is the glory of your people Israel!”

Luke 2:33

Jesus' parents were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them, and he said to Mary, the baby's mother,

Luke 2:34

“This child is destined to cause many in Israel to fall, and many others to rise. He has been sent as a sign from God, but many will oppose him.

Luke 2:35

As a result, the deepest thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your very soul.”

Luke 2:36

Anna, a prophet, was also there in the Temple. She was the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher, and she was very old. Her husband died when they had been married only seven years.

Luke 2:37

Then she lived as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the Temple but stayed there day and night, worshiping God with fasting and prayer.

Luke 2:38

She came along just as Simeon was talking with Mary and Joseph, and she began praising God. She talked about the child to everyone who had been waiting expectantly for God to rescue Jerusalem.

Luke 2:39

When Jesus' parents had fulfilled all the requirements of the law of the Lord, they returned home to Nazareth in Galilee.

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 and asked,

Matthew 2:2

“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.”

Matthew 2:3

**King Herod was deeply disturbed
when he heard this, as was
everyone in Jerusalem.**

Matthew 2:4

He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, “Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?”

Matthew 2:5

**“In Bethlehem in Judea, for this is
what the prophet wrote:**

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‘And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.’

Matthew 2:7

Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared.

Matthew 2:8

Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!”

Matthew 2:9

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen and followed, when it rose again, went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

Matthew 2:10

**When they saw the star,
they were filled with joy!**

Matthew 2:11

They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Matthew 2:12

**When it was time to leave,
they returned to their own country
by another route, for God had
warned them in a dream not to
return to Herod.**

Matthew 2:13a

**After the wise men were gone, an
angel of the Lord appeared to
Joseph in a dream and said,**

Matthew 2:13b

“Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother, stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.”

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That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother, and they stayed there until Herod's death.

Matthew 2:15

**This fulfilled what the Lord had
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“I called my Son out of Egypt.”**

Matthew 2:16a

Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him.

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**He sent soldiers to kill all the boys
in and around Bethlehem who
were two years old and under,
based on the wise men's report of
the star's first appearance.**

Matthew 2:17

**Herod's brutal action fulfilled
what God had spoken through
the prophet Jeremiah:**

Matthew 2:18

**“A cry was heard in Ramah,
weeping and great mourning.
Rachel weeps for her children,
refusing to be comforted,
for they are dead.”**

Matthew 2:19

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt.

Matthew 2:20

“Get up! Take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead.”

Matthew 2:21

So Joseph got up and returned
to the land of Israel with Jesus
and his mother.

Matthew 2:22

But when he learned that the new ruler of Judea was Herod's son Archelaus, he was afraid to go there. Then, after being warned in a dream, he left for the region of Galilee.

Matthew 2:23

**So the family went and lived in a town called Nazareth. This fulfilled what the prophets had said:
“He will be called a Nazarene.”**

Luke 2:40

There the child grew up healthy and strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

Part 5

**Now that You Know
What Will You Do?**

Principle #1

An appropriate response to the Logos' arrival into the world is to immediately seek Him out and to investigate the validity and legitimacy of who God, the Bible, Jesus, His disciples, and history itself proclaim Him to be.

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When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

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Principle #3

An appropriate response to Christ the King's arrival in the world is to proclaim the Good News of His arrival and His covenant to one and all in every possible way.

Luke

Luke 1:1

Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us.

Luke 1:2

They used the eyewitness reports
circulating among us from
the early disciples.

Luke 1:3

Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, most honorable Theophilus,

Luke 1:4

so you can be certain of the truth
of everything you were taught.

The Shepherds

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told everyone what had happened
and what the angel had said
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