

THE BIRTH OF CHRIST HAPPENED THIS WAY! [READ Matt. 1:18-25]

I. A NUMBER OF YEARS AFTER THE BIRTH OF CHRIST,

1. **(John 1:14)** And the WORD BECAME flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
2. **(1 Timothy 1:15)** "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world TO SAVE SINNERS; of whom I am chief."
3. **(1 Timothy 3:1-15)** "And without controversy GREAT is the mystery of godliness: GOD WAS MANIFEST in the flesh....GOD WAS MADE VISIBLE IN HUMAN FLESH!!"
4. **(1 JOHN 3:5)** "AND WE KNOW THAT HE [JESUS!] WAS MANIFESTED [APPEARED IN VISIBLE FORM TO TAKE AWAY OUR SINS.."

II. THE BIRTH OF CHRIST HAPPENED THIS WAY!

I. Luke 1: 5-25) The angel, Gabriel VISITED ZACHARIAS:

By the time this scene finished, Zacharias has been made "unable to speak"... and his previously barren wife has become pregnant!

II. Luke 1:26-38) GABRIEL LATER VISITED MARY: Six months after Elizabeth conceived John by Zacharias, Mary (a virgin) conceived the Son of God by the direct agency of the Holy Spirit.

III. Luke 1:36-56) MARY VISITED ELIZABETH: When Mary arrived in the presence of Elizabeth, John (six months in Elizabeth's womb) jumped for joy! (Luke 1:41-46)

IV. Luke 1:57-80 and Matthew 1:18-25) MARY RETURNED HOME; JOHN BAPTIST WAS BORN; THE ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO JOSEPH:

V. Luke 2:1-7) JOSEPH AND MARY WENT TO BETHLEHEM.

[The celebration began long before GABRIEL'S announcements to Mary and Joseph! ISAIAH WAS TOLD TO WRITE — *“Behold a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name, EMMANUEL, which being interpreted is, GOD with us.”* (Matt. 1:22-23; Isa. 7:14; 9:6-7; 11:1-9) EMMANUEL! GOD with us!

VI. Luke 2:8-20) THE ANGELS PROCLAIMED MESSIAH'S BIRTH; THE SHEPHERDS VISITED THE CHRIST-CHILD IN THE ANIMALS' QUARTERS: The angels were rejoicing that God was bridging the un-bridgeable gap between holy God and sinful man, *“UNTO YOU A SAVIOUR IS BORN, JESUS CHRIST THE LORD!”*

VII. Luke 2:21-38) JESUS WAS CIRCUMCISED; PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE; and ADORED BY SIMEON AND ANNA:

VIII. Matthew 2:1-12) THE WISEMEN CAME and WORSHIPED KING JESUS: By this time, Jesus was from 1-2 years old and living in a house.

IX. Matthew 2:13-15; 2:19-23; Luke 2:39-47) JOSEPH, MARY AND JESUS FLED TO EGYPT; HEROD SLAUGHTERED CHILDREN: Luke 2:39-47

Herod was afraid of Jesus. So, in his attempt to kill Jesus, he slaughtered all the young boys of Bethlehem and the surrounding area, ages up to two.

ARE WE AFRAID OF JESUS?

O let us walk through these Scriptures and BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD who stepped down from His Glory, all the way to the Cross for sinners!

“O COME! LET US ADORE HIM!”