

KING SIZE BED



The Birth of Jesus Christ

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THE DAY THAT TRANSFORMED THE WORLD



This short presentation on the Birth of Jesus of Nazareth is offered by The Marion County Manna Project, a not-for-profit, Holy Spirit-charged Ministry prayerfully designed to advance the Kingdom of God here on Earth, one soul at a time.

If you consider it worthy, we ask you to freely share this resource with family, friends, co-workers and strangers alike.

Let us spread the Good News of Eternal Salvation far and wide!

THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST

Presentation Sources

Listed and linked below are sources that were utilized in creating this presentation.

All references to Bible verses contained herein are courtesy of www.biblegateway.com/.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS
AS RECORDED IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW



MATTHEW 1:18-25

THE BIRTH OF JESUS
AS RECORDED IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



LUKE 1:5-2:21

THE CENSUS: GOD'S PLAN?
DR. J. VERNON MCGEE



[HTTPS://WWW.CHRISTIANITY.COM/](https://www.christianity.com/)

JESUS/BIRTH-OF-JESUS/ROMAN-WORLD/THE-CENSUS-GODS-PLAN.HTML

PREPARING THE WAY FOR JESUS: The Birth of John the Baptist

Before Jesus showed up on the scene, there was a man named John the Baptist. Born a few months before Jesus, he was anointed by God (in his mother's womb!) to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord.

Let us read how God uses believers and non-believers alike to set the stage for that miraculous happening in Bethlehem. The world was given Hope as a babe was born in a manger, only so that He could later die for our sins to save all of mankind.



John the Baptist (Mattia Preti, 1665)

ZECHARIAH AND ELIZABETH:

Chosen by God as Parents of the Forerunner

In the time of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah. He and his wife, Elizabeth, were righteous in the sight of God, blamelessly observing all of His commands and decrees.

But they did not have any children, as Elizabeth was unable to conceive, and they were both very old.

But things were about to change, as God was beginning to put the pieces in place to prepare for His Son's arrival.



GOD SENDS HIS MESSENGER: An Angel Comes Calling

One day, when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was in the Temple of the Lord burning incense as all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

Suddenly, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife, Elizabeth, will bear you a son, and you are to call him **John.**

He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit *even before he is born*. He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

THE ANGEL GABRIEL SILENCES ZECHARIAH

Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man, and my wife is well along in years.”

The angel said to him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time.”



GOD SHOWS HIS FAVOR; The Baptizer is Conceived

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the Temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the Temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

When Zechariah's time of service was completed, he returned home. After this, his wife, Elizabeth, became pregnant and, for five months, remained in seclusion.

"The Lord has done this for me," she said. "In these days, He has shown His favor and taken away my disgrace among the people."



THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD

Mary is Visited by the Angel Gabriel

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the Angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The Angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a Son, and you are to call Him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give Him the throne of his father David, and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; His kingdom will never end."



"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"

The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth, your relative, is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail."

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the Angel left her.

MARY VISITS ELIZABETH

John Leaps with Joy in His Mother's Womb

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

In a loud voice she exclaimed, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill His promises to her!"



THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

When it was time for Elizabeth to have her baby, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy, and they shared her joy. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him after his father, Zechariah, but his mother spoke up and said, “No! He is to be called John.”

They said to her, “There is no one among your relatives who has that name.” Then they made signs to his father, to find out what he would like to name the child. Zechariah asked for a writing tablet and, to everyone’s astonishment, he wrote, “His name is John.”

Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue set free, and he began to speak, praising God. All the neighbors were filled with awe, and throughout the hill country of Judea people were talking about all these things. Everyone who heard this wondered about it, asking, “What then is this child going to be?” For the Lord’s hand was with him.

Explore much more about John the Baptist at
<http://www.marionmannaproject.com/the-benchmark-of-greatness!>



GOD USES NON-BELIEVERS: Emperor Caesar Augustus Calls for a Census

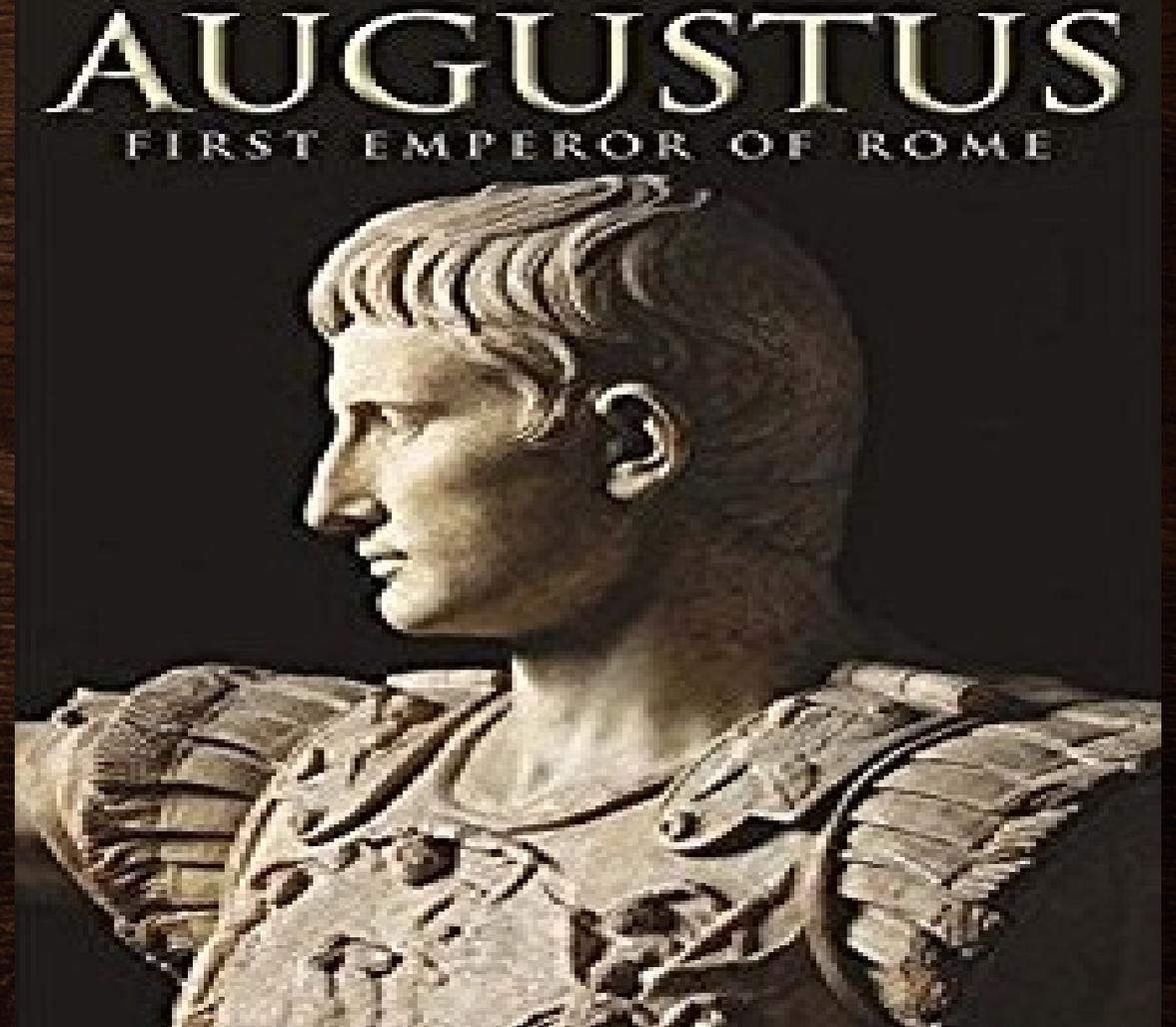
As God usually does prior to revealing something big, He unfurls His majesty here by employing a leader who doesn't believe in Him to (unknowingly) advance His plan.

Mary is with child and expecting soon. An Old Testament prophecy ([Micah 5:2](#)) called for the Messiah to be born in Bethlehem, but Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth, about 100 miles away. For them to get from Nazareth to Bethlehem, it would take about 8 to 10 long days of walking/riding an animal. Something big was going to have to happen to cause them to be in Bethlehem for the birth.

Enter into the picture Roman Emperor Caesar Augustus. A great nephew and adopted son of Julius Caesar, his given name was Gaius Octavius.

As he wasn't content with the titles bestowed upon him by the Roman Senate (King, Emperor, Dictator), he chose the title Augustus. Since it had religious significance, it was an attempt to deify himself.

Augustus wanted to be god-like to accentuate his standing and his luxurious living. He needed to raise more money. A method in which to accomplish this was by a taxing of the citizens. Before that could take place, a census was needed.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

according to the Gospel of Luke

So, the Emperor did just that. Luke 2 begins by telling us that Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census to be taken throughout the entire Roman world. This required everyone to return to their own town to register.

Since both Joseph and Mary were from the lineage of David, they had to travel to Bethlehem in the city of David. This is how our Almighty God used a non-believer to get Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to where the Prophet Micah said the Savior would be born!

Once the long journey was completed, the time came for the baby to be born, and Mary gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.



GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY SPREADS

Glory to God in the Highest!

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An Angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

But the Angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you Good News that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a Baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Suddenly a great company of the Heavenly Host appeared with the Angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest Heaven, and on Earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.”

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.”



HIS NAME IS JESUS

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this Child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the Child, He was named Jesus, the name the Angel had given Him before He was conceived.



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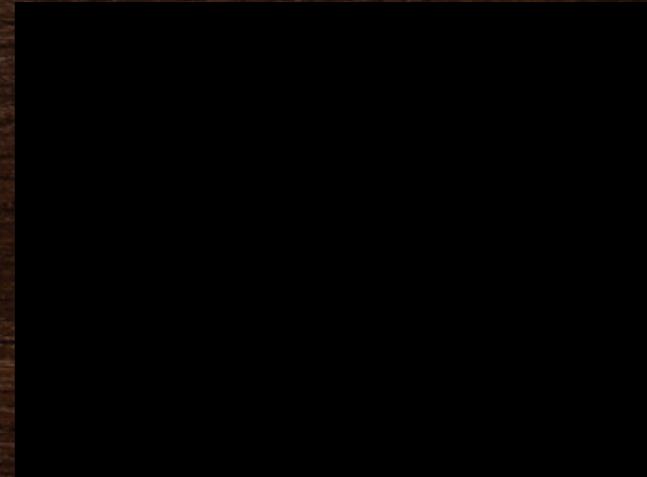
a Holy Spirit charged Video

**THE BIRTH
of
JESUS CHRIST**

as recorded in the
Gospel of Luke (chapters 1 & 2)

This video also appears on the
**MARION COUNTY
MANNA PROJECT**
website at:

<https://www.marionmannaproject.com/the-birth-of-jesus>



EXPLORING JESUS CHRIST and MORE!

The Marion County Manna Project offers a treasure trove of free resources to help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ far and wide. An optimal launch point is:

<https://www.marionmannaproject.com/jesus-christ>

Most of our webpages offer a narrative, videos and external link resources. Also included are printer friendly documents (PDF) to freely share with others in Bible Studies, Small Faith Sharing Groups, Christian Education, Personal Faith Enrichment and any Discipleship setting!

For quick links to our 1300+ webpages, explore
<https://www.marionmannaproject.com/website-directory>

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***A LOT CAN HAPPEN
IN THREE DAYS***



The Marion County Manna Project
INTRODUCING THE KING

