

JESUS, GOD'S SON, IS BORN

A prophecy in about 700 B.C. : Where will Jesus Christ be born?

Micah 5:2 (Old Testament)

2Bethlehem town is very small in Israel. But from Bethlehem will come a leader for Israel. This leader is from eternity past.

Jesus' Birth – Luke 2:4-20

(about A.D. 1 in Israel)

4Joseph went about 130 kilometers from the town of Nazareth to the town of Bethlehem. Bethlehem was Joseph's hometown. 5He went to Bethlehem to register. He was engaged to Mary, so Mary went with Joseph. Mary was pregnant [by God's Holy Spirit].

6When Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, it was time for the baby to be born.

7Mary gave birth to her first son. She put him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

8There were shepherds who lived in the fields near Bethlehem. They were watching their sheep at night. 9An angel from God came to the shepherds, and God's glory was very bright. The shepherds were very afraid.

10But the angel said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It is very happy news. It is for all the people. 11Today in Bethlehem a Savior has been born for you. He is Christ the Lord. 12This is how you can find the baby: He is lying in a manger."

15The shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see what God has told us about." 16So they went quickly and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in a manger.

17After the shepherds saw the baby, the shepherds told everyone. The shepherds told everyone what the angel said about the baby. 18And all the people were amazed when they heard about the baby. 19But Mary kept everything in her heart – and Mary thought deeply about everything.

20The shepherds went back home. They thanked and praised God for everything they had heard and seen. It was just like the angel told them!

CONTENT QUESTIONS:**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- When was Micah 5:2 written?
 - Where will Jesus Christ be born?
 - When was Jesus born?

Do you know what will happen next month?

Who knows what will happen next month?

- Where did Joseph & Mary go? (verse 4, 5)
- What was Joseph & Mary's relationship? (verse 5)
- What was Mary's situation? (verse 5)
- Why was Mary pregnant? (verse 5)
- Where did Mary & Joseph stay in Bethlehem? (vs 7) stable [explain meaning]
- Why did they stay there? (verse 7)
- Where did Mary put baby Jesus? (verse 7)

Are you surprised that God's Son was born in a stable?

6Jesus Christ was [in heaven with God the Father and was] God. Jesus Christ was equal with God – but Jesus did not keep his equality with God. 7But Jesus made himself nothing – he made himself a servant – he became a man. 8Jesus became a man, so he became very humble – and he obeyed God the Father. Jesus obeyed God the Father and died – Jesus died on a cross! 9So [later] God the Father lifted Jesus up to the highest position – and God the Father gave Jesus the highest name. 10So [later] every person will bow down to Jesus – everyone in heaven and earth and under the earth will bow down to Jesus. 11And everyone will say: Jesus is Lord – so God the Father will get glory.

Philippians 2:6-11

Why do you think Jesus became humble? (Luke 2:11)

- Who were living near Bethlehem? (verse 8)
- What were they doing? When were they doing it? (verse 8)
- Who came to the shepherds? (verse 9)

- What good news did the angel tell the shepherds? (verse 11)
- Who was the good news for? (verse 10-11): for shepherds and **all** people

Is it good news for us too?
Why do you think it is? Or isn't?

- What did the shepherds do next? (verse 15-16)
- Where was the baby? (verse 16)
- What did the shepherds do after they saw the baby? (verse 17)
- Why do you think they told everyone?
- Why were all the people amazed? (verse 17 & verses 11-12)
- But what did Mary do? (verse 19)

Does everyone feel the same when they hear about Jesus?

- How did the shepherds feel? (verse 20)
- Why did the shepherds thank and praise God? (verse 20)