

# Christmas in Chronology

## Part 2

After Joseph took Mary home as his wife, further events had happened to finalize the event of Jesus birth:

**4- The Birth of Jesus:** “1 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to his own town to register. 4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” (Luke 2:1-7) God ordained for the census to happen so that the birth of Jesus will take place in the town of Bethlehem to fulfill God’s word in *Micah 5:2* “**But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.**” When Joseph went there to register with Mary that means they were officially married and they have document to be presented to the local Romans authority. We can commend Joseph and Mary here with their obedient to God and His Word by their submission to the government authority.

**5- The Visit of the Shepherd:** “8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” 13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” 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.” 16 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. 17 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.” (Luke 2:8-20) The shepherds visited Jesus who was laid in a manger in a house for animals.

**6- The Visit of the Magi:** “1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” 3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. 5 “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: 6 “ ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.’ ” 7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.” 9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. 11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.” (Matthew 2:1-11)

**7- The Persecution against Jesus and the Killing of the Boys of Bethlehem:** “12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.” (Matthew 2:12) With the visit of the Magi to Jesus, and their meeting with Herod in Jerusalem, persecution broke out against Jesus and his family. Herod was afraid that another king will take his place of leadership. “16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. 17 Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: 18 “A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.” (Matthew 2:16-18)

**8- The Escape to Egypt:** “13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. “Get up,” he said, “take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.” 14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, 15 where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.” (Matthew 2:13-15) God warned Joseph to take the child Jesus and his mother and go to Egypt to protect him.

Before they went to Egypt there are other events written by Luke had happened.

**9- Jesus Circumcision and His Presentation for the Lord in The Temple in Jerusalem:** “21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise him, he was

*named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he had been conceived. 22 When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), 24 and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." (Luke 2:21-24) Jesus presented to the Lord in accordance to God's command in Exodus 13:1-2 "1 The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether man or animal." Jesus presented to the Lord in the Temple when He was 40 days age because that is the time needed for the purification "1 The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Say to the Israelites: 'A woman who becomes pregnant and gives birth to a son will be ceremonially unclean for seven days, just as she is unclean during her monthly period. 3 On the eighth day the boy is to be circumcised. 4 Then the woman must wait thirty-three days to be purified from her bleeding. She must not touch anything sacred or go to the sanctuary until the days of her purification are over.'" (Leviticus 12:1-4) Possibly Joseph received the warning from the angel about this time or before, and he did his part in obeying the Lord's commands and instructions to circumcise the child Jesus and to dedicate Him to the Lord before he took the child and His mother to Egypt.*

*9- The Return from Egypt: "19 After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 20 and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." 21 So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, 23 and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: "He will be called a Nazarene." (Matthew 2:19-23) The period that Jesus stayed in Egypt is not clearly determined but some they suggested few months while others suggested some years. But most like that was a short period before God put Herod to death. Luke 2:41 says, "41 Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover." So either the parents staying in Egypt was a short of time of less than one year, or they were travelling from Egypt to obey God's command and to take part in the Passover Feast.*

***My Dear and Beloved:** God is the one who ordained the birth of Jesus to come and save the world. But obedient, diligent committed people, Joseph and Mary, were willing to suffer and carry the call of God were needed to accomplish God's plan of salvation for mankind. Meditate on the message and see how you can be a channel of blessing to others as Joseph and Mary interacted and obey God's word and call, as you agree to pray.*

***My Prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your blessed word to me. Lord "Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law." (Psalms 119:18) Give me also more insight in all what I had received from your word to apply in my life so I will continue to be effective in my service and ministry unto you, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.*

# Jesus christ



## The Bread Of Life

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*"1 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. 3 Therefore, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, 4 so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught."*

*(Luke 1:1-4)*

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