


The First Christmas

- Background: The Bible Timetable for Christmas**
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foundation of the World (Rev 13:8) 2. All the Prophecies of 4,000 Years (OT) 3. Orchestration of birth (Mt 1:1-17; Lu 3:23-38) 4. Angel → Mary (Lu 1:26-38) 5. Mary travels to Elisabeth's (Lu 1:39-55) 6. Mary returns to Nazareth (Lu 1:56) 7. Angel → Joseph (Matt 1:18-25)) 8. Decree/Bethlehem Travel (Lu 2:1-5) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus Circumcised on His 8th Day (Luke 2:21) 2. Temple after Mary's Purification (Luke 2:22-38) 3. Wise Men Visit (Mt 2:1-12) 4. Flee to Egypt (Matt 2:13-15) 5. Murder by Herod (Matt 2:16-18) 6. Return to Nazareth (Mt 2:19-23; Lu 2:39) 7. Jesus Grows (Luke 2:40) 8. Passover at Age 12 (Luke 2:41-50) 9. Jesus continues to grow (Luke 2:51-52) 10.30 years...: John, Mt 3:1ff; Jesus; Lu 3:23 |
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So when is "Christmas,"
when Jesus actually was born
-- the event we say we are celebrating?



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The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:6-7)

⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.

⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:6-7)

⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered.

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Technically, this is the one verse that speaks directly to Jesus' actual birth.

All other references speak about events before or after Jesus' birth.

The Birth of Jesus (Luke 2:6-7)

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⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

What we speak of as an event is actually the culmination of events throughout the Bible.

Our speech and focus should not be on a single verse in the Bible, but all of the Bible.

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Residents

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

¹¹ "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Utterance

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹² "And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

Evidence

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

Exuberance

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing (*rhēmatos* – "utterance") that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

Conference

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Genuineness

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁷ Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely¹ known the saying (*rhematos* – “utterance”) which was told them concerning this Child.

Declaration

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁸ And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

Amazement

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁸ And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

What was that they were telling again?

¹⁷ Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely¹ known the saying (*rhematos* – “utterance”) which was told them concerning this Child.

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things (*rhemata* – “utterances”) and pondered *them* in her heart.

Consideration

The Rest of the Day of Jesus' Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

²⁰ Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them. (you know, the “utterance”)

Significance

So, what was the “utterance” again?



The Rest of the Day of Jesus’ Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

¹¹ "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

The Rest of the Day of Jesus’ Birth (Luke 2:8-20)

¹¹ "For there is born	The prophesied birth
to you	The privileged recipients
this day	The present moment
in the city of David	The predicated location
a Savior,	The Personal Rescuer
who is Christ the Lord.	The promised One of God

The first “Christmas” was a singular focus on the Person and Purpose of the One born.

Is that your singular focus?

What are you broadcasting about Jesus’ birth by your words and works?

Have you received the One (and only One) who can save you from your sin and make you right with God?