

Luke 2

King James Version (KJV)

2 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (Taxation and census was taken of all of the Roman Empire)

² (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

³ And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. (They all returned to the place of their birth)

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) (Joseph was of the lineage of Judah) Mark-1

(Mary was from both Judah <through Nathan> & Levi) Luke-3

Genesis-35:17-20 (David and Benjamin were sons of Rachel, born in Bethlehem. David was an earlier type for Jesus)

NOTE: (Nazareth in Aramaic means the branch town; Bethlehem means the house of bread in Hebrew)

⁵ To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

⁶ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. (Jesus was born there)

⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

NOTE: (Politically correct atheists today are trying to remove nativity scenes from Christmas displays. Don't allow it. Christmas is about celebrating Our Lord Jesus Christ coming into this world. It's not about Santa Claus and presents)

⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. (The shepherds would soon be bringing their flocks in for the winter. It was the end of September.

There is no grass in the fields during winter. They were returning their flocks to the sheep cots)

⁹ And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. (The angel of the Lord – is God, in angelic form; One God, many offices)

¹⁰ And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. John-3:16 (the Savior) (Christ = the anointed one = Christos<Greek>)

¹² And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. (Jesus – is God in the flesh; One God, many offices)

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, (These were people, in their spiritual bodies, who appeared from Heaven to praise God)

¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Jesus would become our Prince of peace)

¹⁵ And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. (They understood that they had just seen God, in angelic form)

¹⁶ And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. (They wanted to go worship God, as Jesus – the Savior of the world)

¹⁷ And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. (They were witnesses to other people that God in Heaven had announced the birth of Messiah)

¹⁸ And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. (These shepherds had no reason to lie about a thing like that. They were believable witnesses)

See Isaiah-7:14 (It was all prophesied hundreds of years earlier)

¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.
(Such a great event must have been difficult for her to adjust to. She must have been in awe over all of this)

²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. (They needed to take their sheep into the sheep cotes for the winter)

²¹ And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb. (Jesus = Yahoveh's Savior; Gabriel gave them His name, as appointed by God, when he spoke to Mary)

NOTE: (September-29, Jesus was born – on the 1st day of the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles; and circumcised on the last < 8th> day of that feast)

²² And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; (40 days of purification for Mary) Leviticus-12:2-8

(They presented the baby Jesus in the temple, as was the custom)

²³ (As it is written in the law of the LORD, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) Exodus-13:2 (The first born male of the family)

²⁴ And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. Leviticus-12:2-8

NOTE: (Jesus would later fulfill all of these blood ordinances when they crucified Him. After that, it is sacrilege to offer blood sacrifices to God. Jesus became the one perfect sacrifice for all time)

²⁵ And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him. (The Holy Spirit – is God in the Spirit; One God, many offices)

²⁶ And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. (Christ = the anointed one = Christos <Greek>)

²⁷ And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

²⁸ Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

²⁹ Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: (He is serving God as another witness to the coming of the Messiah, sent by God)

³⁰ For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, (The salvation is for us, as brought forth by Jesus, as Messiah)

³¹ Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; (The coming of Messiah was prophesied over a thousand years earlier by many prophets)

NOTE: (Yet with all these prophecies and publicly shown miracles, some people still deny Jesus Christ today)

³² A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. Isaiah-9:2 (Jesus is the Light of the world. HE saves people from the darkness of ignorance and confusion)

³³ And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him. (They were unaccustomed to having all this attention from good people who understood the scriptures)

³⁴ And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (shall be spoken against = shall be debated – better translation)

(The truth always creates controversy and division – some believe, some don't)

³⁵ (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. (Mary's heart will be broken at the crucifixion of Jesus; but many will be saved by it)

³⁶ And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity;

³⁷ And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. (She continued to serve God in the temple after the death of her husband)

³⁸ And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. (She was a third witness to the arrival of Messiah)

³⁹ And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. (That's where Jesus grew up) (Nazareth = the branch <in Aramaic>)

⁴⁰ And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him. (Because He was God, in the flesh)

⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. (Twelve years old was the age of accountability)

See Genesis-4:3-4 (When Cain and Abel made their offering to God. They were both at the age of accountability – they were fraternal twins. When Cain murdered Abel <Genesis-4:6>, he was responsible for his crime because he was of age)

⁴³ And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. (Jesus was a good kid. They never had to worry about Him. That's why they failed to notice that He hadn't left with them)

⁴⁴ But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. (They noticed that He was missing after a day's travel)

⁴⁵ And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.

⁴⁶ And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. (doctors = Bible scholars)

(He was missing three days – possibly a foreshadow of the 3 days that He would spend in the tomb)

⁴⁷ And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers. (HE was teaching the scholars the Word of God. His wisdom amazed these scholars – Jesus is the living Word)

⁴⁸ And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing. (father - lower case – Joseph; the adopted father of Jesus)

⁴⁹ And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business? (Jesus was sent to teach the Word of God and to save the world) (Father– upper case – Yahoveh)

⁵⁰ And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them. (Jesus spoke in parables. Those whose spiritual eyes were closed cannot understand)

(HE did that for the protection of those who are not ready to understand the deeper teachings. This allows them to remain innocent, until they are ready) Matthew-13:13-15

⁵¹ And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. (She remembered through the years)

⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. (Jesus was a good man. HE was an example to us all on how to live a good life in God's grace. That's why He was also popular with men)