



\***Luke 2:1** In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

1. **Caesar Augustus** also known as Octavin Caesar ruled Rome from 27 B.C. till 14 A.D. These years were known as the 40 years of Peace for Rome.
2. **Jesus as the scripture** says came at the fulness of time. During a time of peace, the Prince of Peace is born. (**Galatians 4:4**)
3. **Caesar was on the throne** Rome, but God was in control of humanities salvation. His name will be Jesus (Yeshua) God saves.

\***Luke 2:3** **And everyone went to their own town to register.**

\***Luke 2:4** 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.

\***Luke 2:5** He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

\***Luke 2:6** While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

\***Luke 2:7b** She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

\***Luke 2:7** 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.

**The KJV translations is a key** to the story, because the sign to you, is in the swaddling clothes.

\***Luke 3:23** Now Jesus himself was about thirty years old when he began his ministry. He was the son, so it was thought, of Joseph, the son of Heli.

## *The Family Story of Mary & Joseph*

1. **Joseph's biological** dad his name is Jacob.
2. **Luke Chapter three** says he is the son of Heli and this is actually Mary's father. Luke traces Mary's genealogy all the way to Adam.
3. **Joseph is a team member in God's Kingdom work.** Helping his wife do the work of God by bringing the Messiah into the World.
4. **In this culture** did the angel Gabriel get it wrong by not going to Mary's parents and ask for permission? No, tucked inside God's method was how salvation would work, never does a parent's make that choice for their children.
5. **Mary & Joseph would have to surrender** several times in their relationship to each other to bring glory to God.

\***Luke 2:8** And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

\***Luke 2:9** An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

\***Luke 2:10** But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

\***Luke 2:11** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

\***Luke 2:12** And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. (KJV)

### *"A Sign to You"*

1. **Shepherds had a special &** almost too high of adoration for angels. God spoke their heart language by sending an angel and angels to them.
2. **They were the Shepherds who were over the lambs** that would be used for the Passover sacrifices. This kept them out of their own homes for the most part. So, they would identify also that Jesus would be in a manger.
3. **They were called "Levitical Shepherds"**. They had been chosen and trained to attend the flock of sheep that were to be used as sacrificial lambs in the Temple. Sacrificial lambs had to be "spotless and without blemish."
4. **A newborn lamb** was immediately wrapped in clean swaddling cloths to protect them and keep them from blemish and danger. Swaddling clothes described in the Bible consisted of a cloth tied together by bandage-like strips.
5. **Laid in a manger** (or feeding trough for the animals). Because he would feed the world with spiritual truths.