**The Birth of the King**

**Matt. 2:1-2**

*Introduction:*

The “king of the Jews” was born in Bethlehem in days of Herod the king. We read this in the account of the Magi.

We are told, throughout the entire Bible, in different places, about this King

1. King of kings and Lord of Lords (Rev. 17:14)

***REV 17:14 They will make war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will overcome them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings--and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers."***

2. Of his kingdom there shall be no end (Luke 1:33; cf. Dan. 2:44)

***LUKE 1:32-33 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."***

There are two important things to know about any king – especially this king.

1. His pedigree – to establish his right to the throne.

2. His purpose – to establish his right to be followed.

**This King’s Pedigree.**

1. “The Son of David, the son of Abraham”

***MT 1:1 A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham:***

1. Abraham (Gen. 12:3)

***GE 12:3 I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."***

1. David (Isa. 11:1; Jer. 23:4-5; Psa. 132:11)

***ISA 11:1 A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.***

1. The son of a virgin – Mary

***ISA 7:14Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.*** 1

***MATT 1:25 But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.***

***LUKE 1:30-35 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."***

***"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?"***

***The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.***

If merely a “young woman” as in RSV - no sign. If not a virgin, it puts Bible characters in a bad light.

Did Mary lie? (Lk. 1:34)

Did Matthew and Luke falsify the report? If ignorantly it was irresponsible reporting.

If wilfully they should be censured. If deluded they are to be pitied.

She was not a “perpetual virgin” (Matt. 1:25; John 2:12)

***JN 2:12 After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother and brothers and his disciples.***

She was great woman, but not an object of worship.

a. A woman of great faith (Luke 1:34-38, 45)

b. A woman in need of a savior (Luke 1:46-47)

***LK 1:46-47 And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,***

1. The son of a Carpenter? (Mark 6:3)

***Mark 6:3 Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.***

1. Only as it was supposed (Lk. 3:23)

***LK 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,***

1. A just man (Matt. 1:19)

***MATT 1:19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.***

1. An obedient man (Matt. 1:24) – What faith!

***MT 1:24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.***

**This King’s Purpose.**

To save from sin (Matt. 1:21) ***21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."***

1. Not from poverty (Mk. 14:7) ***7 The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me.***

2. Not from political oppression (John 18:36) ***JN 18:36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place."***

3. Not from physical suffering.

4. Not from temporal consequences of sin.

5. Conditional salvation (John 8:24***) 24 I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am the one I claim to be, you will indeed die in your sins."***

1. As alien sinner (Matt. 26:28; Acts 2:38) ***28 This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.***

***AC 2:38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.***

1. As sinning Christians (1 John 1:8-2:1)

***1JN 1:8-2:1 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives. My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.***

B. To inherit David throne (Lk. 1:31-33).

***31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end."***

1. Has done that (Acts 2:25-36)

***But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him: " `I saw the Lord always before me.Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.***

***You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.'***

***"Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said,***

***" `The Lord said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies***

***a footstool for your feet." '***

***"Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ."***

1. He continues to reign (1 Cor. 15:23-28)

***But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.***

*Conclusion:*

1. Jesus is the only name by which you can be saved (Acts 4:12)

***AC 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."***

1. Jesus has every right to the throne of David.
2. Have you accepted Jesus as both your saviour and king?

Amen