

1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

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.

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:)

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.

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.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

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.

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.

Being born in a stable and being laid in a feeding trough, is not exactly how we would expect Jesus Christ, the creator of the whole world, to enter this physical earth!

...but then again, our God is always full of un-expected surprises!

The Gospel of **LUKE**

Lesson 5
Chapter Two - Verses 1-20

Jesus' Birth

Chapter 2, Verses 1-7 - Jesus enters the world in an unexpected way!

1. A Roman emperor named Caesar Augustus, commanded the whole land of Palestine to be **taxed**.
2. This law of taxation required every Jewish citizen to return to their **hometown** and report to the Roman government their employments, properties and assets.
3. This law of taxation made Joseph and Mary travel **80** miles from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judea.
4. During the trip, Mary was in the **last** stages of her pregnancy.
5. Because the city of Bethlehem was **crowded** and Joseph and Mary were poor, they could not find a place to **stay**, and they had to live in an animal **stable**.
6. While living in a stable, Mary gave **birth** to the baby Jesus.
7. When Jesus was born, Mary wrapped him in a **blanket** and laid him in a feeding trough.



750 years before He was born, the Bible tells us in Micah 5:2, that Jesus would be born in the little town of Bethlehem.



Caesar Augustus was flexing his power by requiring everyone to return to their own city so they can be taxed, but in reality, Caesar was God's little **puppet**.



Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room for Him at the inn. Similarly, today many have no room for Jesus in their own **lives**.



Jesus' earthly ministry was performed in **poverty**. Darby said, "He began in a manger, and ended on the cross, and along the way had no where to lay His head."

Birth Announced

Chapter 2, Verses 8-12 - Angels announced the birth of Jesus to shepherds.

1. Not too far from the birth of Jesus, shepherds were **camping** in the fields at night, watching over their flock of sheep.
2. While the shepherds were camping, an Angel appeared to them in a bright, glorious light and the shepherds were extremely **scared**.
3. The Angel tried to **comfort** the fearful shepherds by telling them to "fear not, I have good news for the whole **world**."

Birth Announced

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Chapter 2, Verses 8-12 - Angels announced the birth of Jesus to shepherds.

4. The Angel announced to the shepherds, that nearby, in the town of Bethlehem, a Baby had been **born**.
5. The Angel announced to the shepherds that this baby was the Savior, which means a person who **rescues** other people from harm, danger, or loss.
6. The Angel announced to the shepherds that this baby was the Christ, which means the **Anointed** (chosen) of God.
7. The Angel announced to the shepherds that this baby was the Lord, which means God has **shown** Himself in human form.
8. The Angel gave the shepherds a sign to help them **find** the baby Jesus.
9. The Angel told the shepherds that they will find the baby Jesus wrapped in a blanket, laying in a place where **animals** eat their food.
10. Immediately after the angel finished speaking to the shepherds, many other angels came down from Heaven and started **praising** God.
11. After the angels left and went back to Heaven, the shepherds **hurried** to Bethlehem and **found** Mary and Joseph, and the baby Jesus, lying in a manger.
12. When the shepherds realized what the Angel had told them was **true**, they **told** everyone they met what the Angel had said about the baby Jesus.
13. Everyone who heard the shepherd's stories about the baby Jesus, were **shocked**, but Mary didn't say a word, and she thought about everything that had happened.
14. After a while, the shepherds returned to their flocks, happy and praising God for all they had **seen** and **heard**.



The first announcement of Jesus' birth was not given to the religious leaders in Jerusalem, but to **humble** shepherds.



God using the humble shepherds signifies to us all, that Jesus is available to **all**, including the plain and the ordinary. Jesus will come to anyone with a heart humble enough to **accept** him.



The shepherds ran to see the baby Jesus and then they told everybody about Him. Shouldn't we look forward to **seeing** Him everyday in prayer, worship and Bible study? Shouldn't we want to **share** our story about Jesus with our friends?



Born in a stable, laid in a manger and announced to shepherds... everything about the birth of Jesus, points to the fact that Jesus is the **Lamb** of God that took away the sin of the world.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

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, good will toward men.

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.

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

17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18 And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

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.

“Some of the Jews were waiting for a savior to deliver them from Roman power. But the work of Jesus is more far reaching than anyone could imagine. Christ paid the price for our sins. He offers us more than temporary salvation from political or physical problems—he offers us peace with God that will last for eternity.” - LASB