

Harmony of the Words and Works of Jesus Christ

September 28-Lesson #3- Sections 10-19 The Christmas Story

Video Notes- start-32:26

33:18-Matthew records the birth of Christ from the viewpoint of _____. Luke records the advent of Christ from _____ perspective.

33:53- Both Joseph and Mary were descendants of _____

36:41- The shepherds were given a sign. They would find a baby wrapped in _____ & laying in a _____. These cloths were the wrapping cloths that were used after _____ to prepare a body for _____. This child appeared to have _____ at the time of His _____.

38:31-Circumcision had been instituted by God in connection with the _____. In Genesis 17, God said that those who would enter into the _____ of the covenant must _____ themselves with the God of the covenant. This they did by receiving _____. In obedience to the law, Christ was _____. Circumcision identified Christ with the _____ people.

42:25- The word translated star literally means _____.

44:00-They offered gifts of gold and _____ and myrrh. These were gifts that were fitting a _____. These Gentiles were offering the tribute of the _____.

47:09 It was not until the third day that they found Him in the temple courts. He was sitting

His humanity was as perfect as His deity was complete.

Discussion Questions

1. To whom did the first announcement of Christ's birth come?
2. If Jesus birth fulfilled prophecies concerning Messiah, why do you think the announcement did not come to the religious leaders of Israel?
3. How did the shepherds respond to the announcement of Christ's birth (Luke 2:15-20)?
4. In what ways did Joseph and Mary show their faith in God's covenant with Abraham and their obedience to the Law (Luke 2:22-24)?
5. To whom would Messiah bring blessing, according to Simeon's quotation of Isaiah 42:6 (Luke 2:30-32)?
6. What does the nature of the "star" or "**shining**" which guided the Magi suggest to you, what was that "shining" similar to in Israel's history?
7. Why were these Magi who were Gentiles seeking Jesus (Matthew 2:2-6)? Why is the fact that they were Gentiles significant?

8. Why did Herod want to kill Jesus?
9. After amazing the religious leaders with His understanding of the Scriptures, what did Jesus call the temple?
10. What does this show about His understanding of His relationship to God the Father? _____ Of His work? _____
11. Reading this passage do you think Jesus knew He was fully God and fully man?
12. If you had been living at the time of Jesus birth and realized that God was sending His promised Messiah, what would you have told your friends and family? How does that compare with what you tell others today?
13. What consequences did Joseph's obedience bring about? How important, then, is obedience to the man or woman of God? Why?

Worth Noting: How Matthew uses prophecy in his gospel

1. **Matthew links incidents in Christ's life using 3 types of prophecy**
 - A. Hosea 11:1 says "I called my son out of Egypt". At the time Hosea wrote this it was a reference to Israel's deliverance out of Egypt & not a **specific** prophecy of the return of Jesus from Egypt back to Israel. Matthew saw Israel's history as a **type** of God's future dealing with His people. The return of Abraham's descents back to Israel in the Old Testament is a **prophetic type** of what God would do in returning Jesus back to the Land of Promise.
 - B. Matthew 2:18 is a quote from Jeremiah 31:15, where Jeremiah writes of the sorrow brought about by Nebuchadnezzar when he conquered Judah. Ramah was an assembly point for the Jews to be taken into exile to Babylon. Matthew saw this passage as a **prophecy with a double reference**.
 - C. Matthew 2:6 was a quote from Micah 5:2 and a **direct prophecy** of Bethlehem, the place of Messiah's birth.
 - D. **Why did Matthew use prophecy in this way?**
2. Matthew references the prophets. In Matthew 2:23- "he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets: He will be **called a Nazarene.**" There is no specific prophecy in the Old Testament that says Jesus will be from Nazareth. The tie in may be that Nazareth was considered by the Rabbis of Jerusalem to be a despised place. Isaiah 53:3 says "He was despised and rejected by men".