

The True Nativity Story

December 2, 2017



This is the time of the year when the Christian world celebrates the “birth” of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



Christmas festivity fills the air.
The whole country is brightly decorated with
blinking lights, colorful lanterns, glistening
evergreen trees and the famous “Belen” or
manger scene.



Festive Christmas carols pervade the airwaves with Christmas songs like “The First Noel,” “Oh, Holy Night,” “Away in a Manger,” and many more.



Surprisingly, when you ask theologians,
ministers and priests, they will honestly tell
you that Jesus was NOT born on Christmas
day.



The true story of the birth of Christ, the savior of the world, has been clouded with so much myth and falseness that it is impossible to see the glorious light of the birth of Christ.



Nothing you know and celebrate about
Christmas is true.



1. Jesus was not born on Christmas Day 25th of December
2. Jesus was not born in a manger
3. Shepherds in the field were not ordinary shepherds
4. The Magi were not pagan kings nor astrologers



The nativity story of the birth of Christ has to be told the right way.



The true nativity story is a beautiful and magnificent story of God's unfailing grace and love for His children.



It is the greatest story in the history of
mankind.



It is the story of the Creator who came to
save the created.



Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵ “The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.



Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁷ He is **before all things**, and in him all things hold together.

¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the **beginning and the firstborn from among the dead**, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,



Colossians 1:15-20

²⁰ and through him to **reconcile to himself all things**, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”



The birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is the greatest story that needs to be told the right way.



The coming of the Messiah Savior was foretold and prophesied in the Scriptures hundreds of years before the birth of Christ.



We will talk about five (5) prophecies related to the birth of Jesus. All these five (5) prophecies were fulfilled in the nativity narratives.



These five (5) prophecies declare that Jesus, the **Lamb of God**, was brought forth as a **child through a miraculous virgin birth** in the **town of Bethlehem** at **Midgal-Eder** born to be King of the Jews **confirmed by His star**.



1. Lamb of God.

Isaiah 53:7

He was oppressed and afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like **a lamb** to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.



2. Jesus to be born in Bethlehem.

Micah 5:2

“But you, **Bethlehem** Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me, The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.”



3. Birthplace of Jesus.

Micah 4:8

“And you, **O tower of the flock**, The stronghold of the daughter of Zion, To you shall it come, Even the former dominion shall come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.”



4. King of the Israel.

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a **child is born**,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the greatness of his government and
peace there will be no end.



5. The Star of Bethlehem.

Numbers 24:17

“I see him, but not now;

I behold him, but not near.

A star will come out of Jacob;
a scepter will rise out of Israel.



“**The Lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world.” This announcement spoken of by John the Baptist is profound.



John the Baptist pronounced Jesus as the Lamb of God even before Jesus started His ministry. He knew Jesus was the Lamb of God because of a sign from God the Father.



Notice John 1:29-34.
This insight had a unique divine perspective.



John 1:29-34

²⁹ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, **the Lamb of God**, who takes away the sin of the world!

³⁰ This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’



John 1:29-34

³¹ I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that **he might be revealed** to Israel.”

³² Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him.



John 1:29-34

³³ And I myself did not know him, but the **one who sent me to baptize with water** told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'

³⁴ I have seen and I testify that this is **God's Chosen One**



Acts 8:26-35

²⁶ Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.”

²⁷ So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship,



Acts 8:26-35

²⁸ and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet.

²⁹ The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.”



Acts 8:26-35

³⁰ Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet.

“Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

³¹ “How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.



Acts 8:26-35

³² This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading:

“He was led like **a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent,** so he did not open his mouth.

³³ In his humiliation he was deprived of justice.

Who can speak of his descendants?
For his life was taken from the earth.”



Acts 8:26-35

³⁴ The eunuch asked Philip, “Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?”

³⁵ Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the **good news about Jesus.**



When John the Baptist declared Jesus as the Lamb of God, he was referring to this particular prophecy written 700 years before the birth of Christ, and further confirmed by the Apostles in 1 Peter 1:18-19



1 Peter 1:18-19

¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, **a lamb without blemish or defect**



1 Corinthians 5:7

⁷ For Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed.



I want you to remember this **1st prophecy** –
of Jesus as the Lamb of God, as we
consider the account of the birth of Jesus.



There are two (2) accounts relating to the birth of Jesus, one was written in the Gospel of Luke and the other in the Gospel of Matthew. We shall visit both of them.



Two accounts:

1. Luke's account records the birth of baby Jesus

2. Matthew's account testifies to the birth of the King of the Jews.



Luke 1:1-7

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

² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)

³ And everyone went to their **own town to register.**



Luke 1:1-7

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.

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



Luke 1:1-7

⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born,

⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was **no guest room available for them.**



When Joseph and Mary arrived in Bethlehem, all the inns were full and there was no room available because many returned to their hometown for the census registration.



At the same time, it was the season of a pilgrimage festival in Israel called the Feast of Tabernacles. Pilgrims all over the country and beyond came to Jerusalem to celebrate the Festival



Since, it was the festival season and the time of census, all the inns were full. Not a single room was available for Joseph and Mary to lodge in.



God knew the exact time of the birth of baby
Jesus, right?



Have you ever wondered why God in all His wisdom did not prepare a room for Mary to give birth in? It would be an easy task for God to make a room available for them, right?



In God's perfect wisdom, Jesus was born at the exact place and perfect time to fulfill all the prophecies about His birth.



Jesus was **NOT** born in a manger, an animal stable, nor on December 25 Christmas day.



There is no way Baby Jesus was born in the death of winter. December 25 is a lie. All churches and ministers know about this. To many of them keeping church tradition (false tradition) is superior to keeping the truth.



Now, let us consider the true nativity story recorded in Luke 2. Many think it is just a plain story. It's not. Everything was executed in perfection according to God's plan as foretold



Now, for the **true story** of the birth of our Savior – the Lamb of God – our Passover – Jesus Christ!



Luke 2:8-20

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

⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.



Luke 2:8-20

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.

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



Luke 2:8-20

¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a **baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.**”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”



Luke 2:8-20

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to **Bethlehem** and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”

¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.



Luke 2:8-20

¹⁷ When they had seen him, they **spread the word** concerning what had been **told them about this child,**

¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.



Luke 2:8-20

¹⁹ But **Mary treasured up** all these things and pondered them in her heart.

²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.



There are a few interesting items in this particular scene; they are:

1. Who were the shepherds?
2. How did the shepherds find Mary and baby Jesus so easily?
3. What kind of manger or crib did Jesus lie in?



Who were the shepherds?

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



There was a special place within the region of Bethlehem where the sacrificial lambs (including the Passover lambs) were kept and raised.



A special group of trained temple shepherds kept watch over the lambs in strict compliance with the temple regulations. They were not ordinary shepherds.



These shepherds had a particular understanding of the sacrificial nature of the flock under their care. They understood the scriptural teachings.



Leviticus 22:18-20

¹⁸ “Speak to Aaron and his sons and to all the Israelites and say to them: ‘If any of you—whether an Israelite or a foreigner residing in Israel—presents a **gift for a burnt offering to the Lord, either to fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering,**



Leviticus 22:18-20

¹⁹ you must present a male **without defect** from the cattle, sheep or goats in order that it may be accepted on your behalf.

²⁰ Do not bring anything with a defect, because it will not be accepted on your behalf.



These temple shepherds took care of the sacrificial lambs throughout the year. They made sure the lambs destined for the temple sacrifice were in perfect condition.



A passage in the Mishnah (oral tradition - Talmud) leads to the conclusion that the flocks that were pastured there were destined for Temple-sacrifices; and accordingly, **the shepherds, who watched over them, were not ordinary shepherds.**



This was first hinted by Alfred Edersheim (1883) in his book *The Life and Times of Jesus Messiah*.



These temple shepherds who were watching over the sacrificial lambs were the ones to whom God announced, through His angel, the birth of the ultimate sacrificial Lamb – the Lamb of God.



How Did The Shepherds Find Jesus So Quickly?

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to **Bethlehem** and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” (Luke 2:15)



The shepherds were quick to locate Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus. There was no need for the angel to give these shepherds the direction and the exact location of the place of birth because they are familiar with such a place.



This brings us to the **2nd prophecy** written down by the Prophet Micah 700 years before the most important event in all of history.

Micah prophesied that Christ the Savior would come from the tiny town of Bethlehem in Judea.

Micah 5:2

“But you, **Bethlehem** Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me, The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.”



At the same time, the sign of the location was a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. To the temple shepherds that could only mean one thing; they who gave birth to the sacrificial lambs destined for the Temple knew exactly where to go.



This brings us to the 3rd prophecy about the exact birthplace of Jesus. The Scripture describes a place called Migdal Eder. the 'tower of the flock.



Micah 4:8

“And you, **O tower of the flock**, The stronghold of the daughter of Zion, To you shall it come, Even the former dominion shall come, The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.”



Revealed in this passage is the place of the birth of Jesus.



The regulations specified that the sacrificial flock had to be raised within 5 miles from the Temple in Jerusalem to be suitable for the temple sacrifice. Migdal Eder was within the 5-mile distance from the temple in Jerusalem. It was half way between Bethlehem and Jerusalem.



This “tower of the flock” (Migdal Eder) was an agricultural “fort” where the temple shepherds watch over the flock from the second story.



The ground floor of the tower was used to birth newborn lambs in the fields of Bethlehem. This was the delivery and nursing place for newborn sacrificial lambs.



Baby Jesus, as the Passover Lamb of God,
was born here – destined as the Savior of
the world.



The sign of the Messiah's birth is that baby Jesus lying in a manger. This is most significant.



It is the sign of the birth of the Messiah as
the Lamb of God!



Many erroneously believe that Jesus was born in a stable or an open courtyard where cattle and other animals would be kept at night.



Because there was no room in the inn, many assumed that Joseph and Mary took up their lodging there and gave birth to baby Jesus. This is exactly what is seen portrayed in many nativity scenes.



A stable, barn or an open courtyard for cattle
is an unclean and unsanitary place to give
birth.



The sign to the shepherd was they were to find baby Jesus wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. A manger is a crib.



The temple shepherd knew such a place with swaddling cloth and a manger. They had the place. The place is Migdal-Eder – the tower of the flock.



The shepherds give birth to the young at the ground level of Migdal-Eder. This place is always kept clean and ready to give birth to the young.



Lambs were born at Migdal–Eder under the watchful eye of the shepherds.



In the tower, the shepherds would inspect the lambs and designate them either for sacrificial use or for common use.



Only lambs without defect were destined for
sacrificial use in accordance to regulation.



Exodus 12:5

“The animals you choose must be year-old males **without defect**, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats.” If a lamb or a goat is born with defect, it is set aside as common or ordinary.



The new perfect unblemished lambs for sacrifice would be given special attention. The unblemished lamb would be wrapped in swaddling clothes.



Swaddling cloths are narrow bands of cloth wrapped around a newborn child to restrain its movements and keep the newborn calm.



Once certified, the perfect lambs are wrapped in swaddling cloths to protect and safeguard their bodies, keeping them free from spot or blemish.



The lamb would be laid in a manger until they had calmed down and fall asleep.



Baby Jesus, the Passover sacrificial Lamb of God, was born at the place where the sacrificial lambs were born, wrapped in swaddling cloth and laid soundly to sleep in a crib for the lamb.



Do you think any of these was by chance?



The birth of baby Jesus was orchestrated to its minute details. Nothing was left to chance.



God used the temple shepherds, who tendered the sacrificial and Passover lambs to announce the birth of the ultimate sacrificial Lamb of God. What a significant event and meaning!



The circumstance of Jesus' birth is so precise that it has to fulfill all prophecies related to it.



1. Born at the Tower of the flock in Bethlehem within 5 miles from the temple in Jerusalem
2. Wrapped in swaddling cloths lying in a manger – the sign given by the angel
3. Unblemished, spotless, without defect and without sin
4. The Lamb of God born to die as an offering for the sins of the people – the ultimate Passover sacrifice of God
5. Witnessed and announced by the shepherds who attend to the sacrificial lambs destined for temple sacrifice



This is an absolute testimony that Jesus is the Messiah - the Savior of the world. He is the Passover Lamb of God!



Now, we will talk about the Magi who travel from the east to worship baby Jesus. The account is recorded in Matthew 2:1-12.



Matthew 2:1-12

¹ After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, **Magi from the east came to Jerusalem**

² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born **king of the Jews?** We saw **his star** when it rose and have **come to worship him.**”



Matthew 2:1-12

³ When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴ When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.



Matthew 2:1-12

⁵ “In **Bethlehem in Judea,**” they replied, “for this is what the **prophet has written:**

⁶ ““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’ (Micah 5:2)



Matthew 2:1-12

⁷ Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the **exact time the star had appeared.**

⁸ He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”



Matthew 2:1-12

⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and **the star they had seen** when it rose went ahead of them **until it stopped over the place where the child was.**

¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.



Matthew 2:1-12

¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and **they bowed down and worshiped him**. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of **gold, frankincense and myrrh**.

¹² And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



This is an interesting account because there was no mention of who were these Magi. Magi simply means “wise men.” This is where the word “magistrate” comes from.



There was no mention of their names and nationality. The scripture records that they came from the east following a star bearing three (3) gifts.



There are many versions and speculations on who these wise men are. Some say they were Zoroastrians a the group of astrologer -priests of Medo-Persia. Yet others say they were gentile kings from China, India and Babylon.



By the Romans Church tradition there were three (3) wise men that came from the east; they were:

1. Melchior, a Persian scholar; Melchior is middle-aged, giving frankincense. 40 years old.
2. Caspar, an Indian scholar; Caspar is old, normally with a white beard, and gives the gold; and is first in line to kneel to Christ. 60 years old.
3. Balthazar, a Babylonian scholar. Balthazar is a young man, very often and increasingly black-skinned, with myrrh from Saba. 20 years old.



None of these are true:

1. The Bible never said there were three (3) Magi
2. The Magi's name were never mentioned in scripture
3. There were not pagan kings nor astrologers



The wise men came to worship Baby Jesus
born King of the Jews. They brought three
(3) gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



All three gifts are traditional offerings and gifts **given to a king**; myrrh – an anointing oil, frankincense – a perfume, and gold – a valuable commodity.



The three (3) gifts were to signify that a king has been born fulfilling the 4th prophecy of a child is born to be King of Kings and Lord of Lords.



Let's come back to the Magi. The Biblical encounter with the Magi starts in the Book of Daniel 2:1-6 and 46-49.



Daniel 2:1-6

¹ In the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his mind was troubled and he could not sleep.

² So the king summoned the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to tell him what he had dreamed. When they came in and stood before the king,



Daniel 2:1-6

³ he said to them, “I have had a dream that troubles me and I want to know what it means.”

⁴ Then the astrologers answered the king, “May the king live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will interpret it.”



Daniel 2:1-6

⁵ The king replied to the astrologers, “This is what I have firmly decided: If you do not tell me what my dream was and interpret it, I will have you cut into pieces and your houses turned into piles of rubble.



Daniel 2:1-6

⁶ But if you tell me the dream and explain it, you will receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. So tell me the dream and interpret it for me.”



Daniel 2:1-6

⁶ But if you tell me the dream and explain it, you will receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. So tell me the dream and interpret it for me.”



Then, Daniel interpreted the dream for
Nebuchadnezzar.



Daniel 2:46-49

⁴⁶ Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him.

⁴⁷ The king said to Daniel, “Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery.”



Daniel 2:46-49

⁴⁸ Then the king placed Daniel in a **high position** and **lavished many gifts** on him. He made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon and placed him **in charge of all its wise men.**



Daniel 2:46-49

⁴⁹ Moreover, at Daniel's request the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego administrators over the province of Babylon, while Daniel himself remained at the royal court.



The magi were among the highest-ranking officials in Babylon because of their combined knowledge of science, agriculture, mathematics, history, astronomy, and their ability to interpret dreams.



They had religious and political influence and they were the most prominent and powerful group of advisors in the Babylonian and Medo-Persian empires. Therefore, they often were referred to as “wise men.”



Historians tell us that no Persian was ever able to become king without mastering the scientific and religious disciplines of the magi.



Future Persian kings were then approved and crowned by the Magis. Shows that this group also largely controlled judicial appointments.



We know that Daniel was the chief Magi.
Daniel was the chief of all the wise men.



What do you think Daniel did with these group of wise men? Daniel would teach them the ways of the Lord. The magi would have learned from Daniel about the one true God.



Besides, there were a lot of Hebrews living in Babylon and Persia during those days who worshipped God.



There are three (3) prophecies concerning the birth of Christ that led the Magi to Jerusalem in Judea.



1. Daniel's understanding of the 70 week prophecy concerning the coming of the Messiah. It would be at the 69th week or 483 years after the decree to rebuild and restore the temple in Jerusalem.



2. Two hundred years after Daniel, Micah identified Bethlehem as the Messiah's birthplace. We already know this from Micah 5:2.



3. The **5th prophecy** is with regards to a heavenly sign of Jesus birth – the star of Bethlehem. The Magi said: “Where is the one who has been born **king of the Jews?** We saw **his star** when it **rose** and have **come to worship** him.” The Magi went to Judea because they saw a star – a heavenly sign of the birth of Jesus.



You would wonder how did they know where to go when they see a star in the west. The Magi knew because they were expecting the event to happen through prophecies.



Numbers 24:17

“I see him, but not now;
I behold him, but not near.

A star will come out of Jacob;
a scepter will rise out of Israel.



The Magi are not some pagan kings or pagan priests who came to worship baby Jesus. Matthew 15:24 Jesus said, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”



Daniel was the chief and head of the group of Magi. Daniel could have appointed some of the Jewish leaders and priests to be part of this group of wise men.



And because of Daniel's faith, many of the wise men were either of Hebraic descends or those who have converted to Judaism as well.



It was told that Daniel organized a group of priests – wise men - to pass this information down from generation to generations from father to son.



Moreover, it was said that Daniel set aside the bulk of his personal wealth as a gift for the Messiah, to be presented by the Magi when the time came for Jesus' birth.



Daniel, understanding the prophecy, gave them a confirming sign to look for – from Numbers 24:17, the Star of Bethlehem. They remained true to Daniel's commission, and upon seeing the star set out for Jerusalem.



Arriving there they sought an audience with King Herod, asking for the whereabouts of the one born to be King of Israel.



The travel would have taken them months.
Thus, when they arrived in Judea baby
Jesus had been moved from Migdal Eder –
the tower of the flock to a house.



In the account of the Pentecost day in Acts 2:9 we know that there were many scattered believers across the East and Asia Minor during the time of Christ.



Acts 2:9

“**Parthians**, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia.”

They were faithful believers and among them were the Parthians, where the Magi came from.



Summation



Everything you thought you knew
about the Christmas story is
wrong and false



Now, you know the true
nativity story



1. Jesus was not born on Christmas Day 25th of December
2. Jesus was not born in a manger
3. Shepherds in the field were not ordinary shepherds
4. The Magi were not pagan kings or astrologers



The birth of Christ is knowable and not difficult to calculate. John the Baptist and Jesus are relatives from the same family. They were born six months apart. John was born first, then, Jesus arrived six months later.



John the Baptist's father, Zechariah, was a priest who served in the Temple. All the priests took turns serving by 24 divisions. Zechariah was of the division of Abijah (Luke 1:5,8).



These turns began in the first month of the Jewish sacred calendar (1Chron. 24:2-18), March or April by our calendar. If we research further into the dating, we will discover that John the Baptist was born on the day of the Passover.



Luke tells us that Elizabeth was six months pregnant when the angel Gabriel visited Mary. If John were born during the Passover, Jesus would have been conceived on the Jewish Feast of Hanukkah. Hanukkah (Chanukkah) is known as the “Feast of the Dedication or the Festival of Lights” (John 10:22).



And assuming a normal pregnancy, Jesus would have been born on the 15th day of Jewish 7th month of Tishri.

This would be in the fall or autumn season in Israel in time for the late harvest festival. Between September – October of the Roman calendar.



There is a pilgrimage festival at this time of the year when people go up to Jerusalem to worship.



Deuteronomy 16

13 Celebrate the **Festival of Tabernacles** for seven days after you have gathered the produce of your threshing floor and your winepress.

16 Three times a year all your men must appear before the LORD your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the **Festival of Tabernacles**.



From conception to birth brings us from Hanukkah to the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles. Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit on Hanukkah and born on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles.



On this day, God
“tabernacled” with men.
Christ came into the world.



Therefore, Jesus was born in
Autumn and not in winter



The shepherds and the Magi were not common ordinary people. They were worshippers of God who understood the significance of the birth of Jesus.



The shepherds testified Jesus as the Lamb of God, while the Magi testified Jesus as the King of the Jews, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.



1. Jesus is the Lamb of God
2. Born in Bethlehem (House of Bread)
3. Born at Migdal-Eder – the Tower of the Flock
4. Announced and witnessed by the temple shepherds the coming of the Messiah
5. Born King of the Jews as witnessed by the wise men
6. Star of Bethlehem a confirming sign of His birth
7. Born during the autumn harvest of the Feast of Tabernacles



Isn't the truth more beautiful than
lies?



Jesus said in John 8:32

“Then you will know the truth, and
the truth will set you free.”



The truth sets you free from lies,
errors and falseness.



Therefore,
worship Him in spirit and in truth without any
falseness!



END

