



EXTREME WORLD IMPACTORS

Warning: Contents may empower believers in changing the world through the Love of Christ. Must be handled with extreme care!

Events in and around Christ's Birth

Matthew 1:18 - 2:23, Luke 1 - 2:52

A Lesson From John the Baptist

The Holy Spirit empowered John the Baptist in revealing Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

[Our Link](#)

We are not only Jesus Christ to the world, but we as His followers are revealing His deity and Kingdom to this world.

A Lesson on the Holy Spirit through the Birth of Jesus Christ

[Matthew 1:18, Luke 1:35](#)

It is important to recognize in the birth of Christ that not only was Jesus fully man and fully deity as testified to us in the Gospels, but we must also learn a lesson from His birth about the characteristics of the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel accounts, we see that the Holy Spirit came upon Mary to birth Jesus Christ in her womb. In this instance we can see not only the unity of the Holy Spirit as one with the rest of the Godhead, but also can see Him in his revelatory role of revealing Jesus Christ to the world as he does even today. This revelatory role of the Holy Spirit is found throughout the Bible, but one scripture points that role out very well, I Corinthians 12:3, "Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and *that* no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost."

[Our Link](#)

We are called the body of Christ and thus as such we have Christ being revealed, not only in us, but through us by the power of the Holy Spirit, who purifies us for our task in showing Jesus to the world.

The importance of Elias's prophecy

[Luke 1:17](#)

John the Baptist was to usher in the Kingdom of God by preparing them for the Kingdom of God through Jesus Christ. The phrase "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" is extremely important since it very much resembles that of the definition of church, which in the Greek is ekklessia or "called out ones". In other words the church is called out of the world as followers of Jesus Christ. We must be unique from unbelievers in our rightful conduct. The Holy Spirit empowers us to live separate from the world around us.

Angels

Angels were involved extensively in the proclamation of Jesus' birth and of His Deity. The word angel means messenger.

Silencing Doubt



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Luke 1:20

Whenever someone questions the reality of who Jesus is, God has a way of silencing them. This is a repeated theme, especially when Jesus is engaging the religious leaders of His day (Pharisees, Sadducees, scribes). Recall God silencing Elias when he doubts the miracle of John's birth.

Historical Link

Luke 1:32

The importance of Jesus as being a descendent of David cannot be underestimated. It was a fulfillment of Old Testament Prophecies concerning His being the promised Messiah, the savior and King, of not only the Jewish people, but also of the world. Note that His Kingdom is not yet come as in Jesus' earthly Kingdom as we have looked into in the Book of I John.

The Father and the Son in the Godhead

Luke 1:32

One name of God the Father, but more inclusively as a name of the Trinity and the Lord God is another name. It is important to understand that God has many names, but all relate to the same Being.

"Nothing shall be Impossible with God"

Luke 1:37

This is a repeated theme throughout the Gospels and is an essential part of our faith in Jesus Christ. We must understand that God the Father has given us unlimited power through His Son. Truly, nothing is impossible with Him.

Praise and the Fear of God

Luke 1:46-55

Mary praises God as a result of the promise of a savior coming to her house. Praise and Worship are very important in the life of any believer. Also the fear of the Lord as Proverbs says is the beginning of wisdom.

People of Low Degree

Luke 1:51-1:53

Jesus came to save whoever will believe in him. He does not care about social status and in fact many times, as we will see through our study of the Gospels, the rich are least likely to accept him. So in some ways the sayings of Mary had almost a prophetic ring.

Emmanuel

Matthew 1:23

The word Emmanuel has a profound meaning. It means God with us. According to Brown-Driver-Briggs' Hebrew Definitions, the word is formed when the Hebrew word for God, el, is coupled with a prefix and a suffix Immanu (Im, or Em in the Greek, meaning with us).

Jesus

Matthew 1:25, Luke 1:31

The name Jesus means Savior and is the Greek word for the Hebrew name Joshua. Joshua had led the People of Israel into the Promised land of Israel from roaming in the Wilderness, just as Jesus came to make a new covenant, in essence a new order for the salvation of mankind.

Prophetic Link

Matthew 2:6



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There is link between the writings of the Prophets of the Old Testament and the fulfillment in the New Testament in Matthew. Micah 5:2 had prophesied the birth of Jesus Christ centuries before his birth.

Its not Time Yet

Matthew 2:13

Throughout the course of Jesus' life on earth, He has leaders that want to kill him, however they cannot kill him until the appointed time that God had already planned out to fulfill His plan of salvation to all of mankind.

A Second Prophetic Link

Matthew 2:15

Are you noticing a pattern with the book of Matthew. Matthew is a Jew that is concerned with showing his fellow Jews that their Messiah, deliverer or savior, has come. This passage is related to Hosea 11:1.

A Third Prophetic Link

Matthew 2:17,18

Jeremiah 31:15 is the third prophetic link.

A Fourth Prophetic Link

Matthew 2:23

From John Wesley's Explanatory Notes, and Vincent's Word Studies, we understand that the label Nazarene was despised, such is in the case of John 1:46, when Nathanael despises Jesus at first because of the place that he came from; examples of the reject of the people is seen in several of the prophetic writings (Is. 6:13, Ps. 22:6, Is. 53:2-4, etc.).

Promises

Luke 26:6

Promises are very important to God, and He always fulfills His promises. We have noticed many promises already that God kept, such as to Abraham, Jacob (therefore also his descendents, for his name was changed to Israel), and now to Simeon.

Fifth Prophetic Link

Luke 2:32

In this prophetic link the Holy Spirit is obviously calling Simeon to remember the Word of God which is in Is. 42:6. Like has been said previously in the study of I John, light is a key metaphor in the Bible (both in the New and Old Testaments).

Question Link

Luke 2:35

What is the sword that pierces through Mary's soul? This is open for discussion, because more than likely there is more than one correct answer. Hint: think about the death of Jesus or any other pain that Mary might feel from her or her son, being despised either because of who He was or the nature of His birth.

Freedom From the Law of Moses

Luke 2:39

Notice that Jesus lived under the law and customs of the Law of Moses, but we do not have to.



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Why? It is because we have life in Him, who was under the Law, so that we could live free from the Law, but instead under the law of grace which is the order which Jesus setup after His death and resurrection, where we are judged more for the thoughts and the intents of our heart rather than the outward customs that the Jews observed.

Word Link

Grace according to one definition by Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary of American English, "Appropriately, the free unmerited love and favor of God, the spring and source of all the benefits men receive from him." In other words undeserved love and favor of God. The other definition, which applied to Jesus Christ and is according to Noah Webster's 1828 Dictionary of American English, "Favor".

A Teachable Moment

Luke 2:46

Notice, even though Jesus was God, He still listened to what the religious teachers were saying, this is a great example of how we must be to people of greater office than ourselves and really anybody, always ready to hear and listen to what they would say.

The Father's Business

Luke 2:49 -2:51

Jesus did not disobey or dishonor His earthly parents, but also made it clear that he had come from His Father to do the will of Heavenly Father. This is a perfect example of him being both fully man and fully God!

Increasing Your Favor Rating

Luke 2:52

Jesus increased in favor with both God and man. Favor is not always being liked by your peers or others around you, but having their respect because of the Christian life that you walk, even if they may not admit that respect to you. However, favor with God is the most important thing and is a result of closely walking in conversion, praise, worship, and obedience to Him.