

Bereans Bible Institute

Module X – The Kingdom of God

Lesson 14 – The Birth of Christ the KING

I. The Birth of Jesus Christ

A. Matt. 1:18-25 The Virgin Birth

1. Mary was with child *“out of {ek} the holy Breath.”* (18 & 20)
2. Name “Jesus” means “salvation” (same name as “Joshua” in the LXX)
3. Matthew quoted Isaiah 7:14
 - a. “Immanuel” means “God with us” (deity having become flesh).
 - b. Luke 1:31-33 cites Isaiah 9:6, the child is called “Mighty God”

B. Matt. 2:1-15 The Magi & Herod

1. The “Magi” (wise men) – a term used of Daniel & astrologers (Dan. 2).
 - a. Daniel influenced the “Magi” who passed down a chronology based on Daniel’s 70-weeks prophecy – the cutting off of the “King of the Jews” after 492 years from Cyrus’ decree.¹
 - b. *“A Star shall come out of Jacob, A Scepter shall rise out of Israel”* (Num. 24:17).
2. Herod concerned since this King would reign over all the earth.
3. Micah 5:2-3 predicted the King’s birth in Bethlehem.
 - a. (v. 3) *“He shall give them up until the time that she who is in labor has given birth”* (ref. Isa. 66) ... *“He shall stand and feed His flock”* interpreted by chief priests as *“Who shall shepherd My people Israel”* (ref. Psalm 2).
 - b. Justin Martyr described Jesus’ birth in a cave, Magi found Him there (before the 8th day of His circumcision @ Temple).
 - c. Gifts presented to Christ as King.
4. Vss. 13-15 Trip to Egypt until the death of Herod.

C. Luke 2:1-20

1. Luke 2:1-3 Justin says the census was local to Judea (account the Davidic line).
2. Luke 2:8-20 the King announced to the Shepherds, who visit the infant.

D. Luke 2:21-39

1. Circumcised the 8th day @ Temple (Lev. 12:4)
2. Prophecies of Simeon & Anna concerning “the LORD’s Christ” (Ps. 2)

¹ Jesus birth could have been calculated backwards 33 years from his “cutting off.” Some ECFs understood David’s reign of 33 years over all Israel as symbolic of Jesus’ life on earth. Others understood Moses’ command in Lev. 12:4 (the days of purification of a woman who bears a male child – 33 days) as symbolic of Mary’s purification for 33 years from giving birth to Jesus.