

***“Jesus—the Jubilee of  
God”***

*Luke 2:1-20*

December 20, 2009

# Why this Story is Truly Amazing:

1. The foretelling of two births, John the Baptist and Jesus Christ.
2. The angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah.
3. Elizabeth conceived when she was most likely “past the age.”
4. The angel Gabriel visited Mary and informed her that the Holy Spirit would cause her to become pregnant.
5. Elizabeth had supernatural knowledge about Mary’s baby.
6. As soon as Zechariah named John he was able to speak and he prophesied

# Luke 2: A Key Question

*Why did God cause this census to take place precisely at this time in history and why did he have Luke record the fact for us?*

# Micah 5:2-4

*“<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>*

*Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.”*

# Luke 2: A Key Insight

*I believe that God caused this worldwide census to occur, that he caused the peoples of Europe and Africa and the Middle East and Asia as far as western China to return to their cities of origin as a massive sign of what was soon to take place in Jesus Christ, namely, the return of all things back to their proper places.*

# Explanation:

- Before sin entered the world there was peace and unity.
- When sin entered the world there was war and disunity.
- This disunity spread as humanity spread and is what marks life on earth today.
- Thanks be to God, in his grace he devised a plan to redeem us from our sin, one of the building blocks of which was choosing Israel.

# Deuteronomy 7:6-10

*“<sup>6</sup> For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. <sup>7</sup> It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, <sup>8</sup> but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.*

# Deuteronomy 7:6-10

*<sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations, <sup>10</sup> and repays to their face those who hate him, by destroying them. He will not be slack with one who hates him. He will repay him to his face.”*

# Leviticus 25:8-12

*“<sup>8</sup> You shall count seven weeks of years, seven times seven years, so that the time of the seven weeks of years shall give you forty-nine years. <sup>9</sup> Then you shall sound the loud trumpet on the tenth day of the seventh month. On the Day of Atonement you shall sound the trumpet throughout all your land. <sup>10</sup> And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a jubilee for you, when each of you shall return to his property and each of you shall return to his clan.*

# Leviticus 25:8-12

*<sup>11</sup> That fiftieth year shall be a jubilee for you; in it you shall neither sow nor reap what grows of itself nor gather the grapes from the undressed vines. <sup>12</sup> For it is a jubilee. It shall be holy to you. You may eat the produce of the field.”*

# Isaiah 61:1-2

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me [Jesus],  
because he has anointed me to proclaim good  
news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim  
liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to  
the blind, to set at liberty those who are  
oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s  
favor ”*

# John 3:16

*“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”*

# Romans 10:9

*“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”*