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¹IN THOSE DAYS A DECREE WENT OUT FROM CAESAR AUGUSTUS THAT ALL THE WORLD SHOULD BE REGISTERED. ²THIS WAS THE FIRST REGISTRATION WHEN QUIRINIUS WAS GOVERNOR OF SYRIA. ³AND ALL WENT TO BE REGISTERED, EACH TO HIS OWN TOWN. ⁴AND JOSEPH ALSO WENT UP FROM GALILEE, FROM THE TOWN OF NAZARETH, TO JUDEA, TO THE CITY OF DAVID, WHICH IS CALLED BETHLEHEM, BECAUSE HE WAS OF THE HOUSE AND LINEAGE OF DAVID, ⁵TO BE REGISTERED WITH MARY, HIS BETROTHED, WHO WAS WITH CHILD. ⁶AND WHILE THEY WERE THERE, THE TIME CAME FOR HER TO GIVE BIRTH. ⁷AND SHE GAVE BIRTH TO HER FIRSTBORN SON AND WRAPPED HIM IN SWADDLING CLOTHS AND LAID HIM IN A MANGER, BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PLACE FOR THEM IN THE INN.

.002.tiff

⁸AND IN THE SAME REGION THERE WERE SHEPHERDS OUT IN THE FIELD, KEEPING WATCH OVER THEIR FLOCK BY NIGHT. ⁹AND AN ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED TO THEM, AND THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHONE AROUND THEM, AND THEY WERE FILLED WITH GREAT FEAR. ¹⁰AND THE ANGEL SAID TO THEM, “FEAR NOT, FOR BEHOLD, I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY THAT WILL BE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE. ¹¹FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY OF DAVID A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD. ¹²AND THIS WILL BE A SIGN FOR YOU: YOU WILL FIND A BABY WRAPPED IN SWADDLING CLOTHS AND LYING IN A MANGER.” ¹³AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL A MULTITUDE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST PRAISING GOD AND SAYING, ¹⁴“GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE AMONG THOSE WITH WHOM HE IS PLEASED!”

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¹⁵WHEN THE ANGELS WENT AWAY FROM THEM INTO HEAVEN, THE SHEPHERDS SAID TO ONE ANOTHER, “LET US GO OVER TO BETHLEHEM AND SEE THIS THING THAT HAS HAPPENED, WHICH THE LORD HAS MADE KNOWN TO US.” ¹⁶AND THEY WENT WITH HASTE AND FOUND MARY AND JOSEPH, AND THE BABY LYING IN A MANGER. ¹⁷AND WHEN THEY SAW IT, THEY MADE KNOWN THE SAYING THAT HAD BEEN TOLD THEM CONCERNING THIS CHILD. ¹⁸AND ALL WHO HEARD IT WONDERED AT WHAT THE SHEPHERDS TOLD THEM. ¹⁹BUT MARY TREASURED UP ALL THESE THINGS, PONDERING THEM IN HER HEART. ²⁰AND THE SHEPHERDS RETURNED, GLORIFYING AND PRAISING GOD FOR ALL THEY HAD HEARD AND SEEN, AS IT HAD BEEN TOLD THEM. —LUKE 2:1-20

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“WE HAVE IN THESE VERSES
THE ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THE MOST MARVELOUS
EVENT THAT EVER
HAPPENED IN THIS WORLD—
THE INCARNATION,
BIRTH OF OUR LORD JESUS
CHRIST. IT IS A PASSAGE
WE SHOULD ALWAYS READ
WITH MINGLED WONDER,
LOVE AND PRAISE.”

—J.C. RYLE

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“CHRISTMAS IS ABOUT A GIFT YOU MUST RECEIVE
BUT IT IS ALSO ABOUT A GIFT WE MUST SHARE
BECAUSE THE WORLD NEEDS TO HEAR AND KNOW
THE GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD!”

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I. THIS STORY IS FORETOLD IN PROPHECY

.007.tif

“THE OLD TESTAMENT IS A MESSIANIC DOCUMENT,
WRITTEN FROM A MESSIANIC PERSPECTIVE,
TO SUSTAIN A MESSIANIC HOPE.”

—JAMES HAMILTON

.008.tif

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.
—MICAH 5:2

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THEREFORE THE LORD HIMSELF WILL GIVE YOU
A SIGN. BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND
BEAR A SON, AND SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL.

—ISAIAH 7:14

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²THE PEOPLE WHO WALKED IN DARKNESS HAVE SEEN
A GREAT LIGHT; THOSE WHO DWELT IN A LAND OF DEEP
DARKNESS, ON THEM HAS LIGHT SHONE... ⁶FOR TO US
A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN; AND THE
GOVERNMENT SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER, AND HIS
NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELOR,
MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE.
⁷OF THE INCREASE OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND OF PEACE
THERE WILL BE NO END, ON THE THRONE OF DAVID AND
OVER HIS KINGDOM, TO ESTABLISH IT AND TO UPHOLD IT
WITH JUSTICE AND WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM THIS TIME
FORTH AND FOREVERMORE. THE ZEAL OF THE
LORD OF HOSTS WILL DO THIS. —ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7

.011.tif

³HE WAS DESPISED AND REJECTED BY MEN, A MAN OF
SORROWS AND ACQUAINTED WITH GRIEF; AND AS ONE
FROM WHOM MEN HIDE THEIR FACES HE WAS DESPISED,
AND WE ESTEEMED HIM NOT. ⁴SURELY HE HAS BORNE
OUR GRIEFS AND CARRIED OUR SORROWS;
YET WE ESTEEMED HIM STRICKEN, SMITTEN BY GOD,
AND AFFLICTED. ⁵BUT HE WAS PIERCED FOR OUR
TRANSGRESSIONS; HE WAS CRUSHED FOR OUR
INIQUITIES; UPON HIM WAS THE CHASTISEMENT THAT
BROUGHT US PEACE, AND WITH HIS WOUNDS WE ARE
HEALED. ⁶ALL WE LIKE SHEEP HAVE GONE ASTRAY;
WE HAVE TURNED—EVERY ONE—TO HIS OWN WAY;
AND THE LORD HAS LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY
OF US ALL. —ISAIAH 53:3-6

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⁹AND THEY MADE HIS GRAVE WITH THE WICKED AND WITH A RICH MAN IN HIS DEATH, ALTHOUGH HE HAD DONE NO VIOLENCE, AND THERE WAS NO DECEIT IN HIS MOUTH. ¹⁰YET IT WAS THE WILL OF THE LORD TO CRUSH HIM; HE HAS PUT HIM TO GRIEF; WHEN HIS SOUL MAKES AN OFFERING FOR GUILT, HE SHALL SEE HIS OFFSPRING; HE SHALL PROLONG HIS DAYS; THE WILL OF THE LORD SHALL PROSPER IN HIS HAND. ¹¹OUT OF THE ANGUISH OF HIS SOUL HE SHALL SEE AND BE SATISFIED; BY HIS KNOWLEDGE SHALL THE RIGHTEOUS ONE, MY SERVANT, MAKE MANY TO BE ACCOUNTED RIGHTEOUS, AND HE SHALL BEAR THEIR INIQUITIES. —ISAIAH 53:9-11

.013.tif

“TO PUT IT PLAINLY,
IT APPEARS THAT
THE BEST WAY OF
UNDERSTANDING THE
BIBLE AS A WHOLE IS TO
SEE THE OLD TESTAMENT
AS PREDICTING THE
COMING OF THE MESSIAH
AND THE NEW TESTAMENT
AS REVEALING HIM TO BE
JESUS OF NAZARETH.”
—MICHAEL RYDELNIK

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2. THIS STORY UNFOLDS IN HISTORY

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3. THIS STORY WAS ANNOUNCED
BY ANGELS

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**4. THIS STORY WAS PROCLAIMED
BY THE SHEPHERDS (LUKE 2:17, 20)**

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“... THE ANGEL’S WORDS
TO THE SHEPHERDS
AND ... THE ANGEL’S
ANNOUNCEMENT
REMINDS US TO SEE
THE WHOLE PICTURE.
CHRISTMAS IS THE FIRST
CHAPTER OF GOD’S
RESCUE STORY, WHICH
CONTINUES THROUGH
THE CROSS AND THE
EMPTY TOMB.”

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**5. THIS STORY IS SHARED
BY ALL WHO BELIEVE**

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6. THE STORY CONTINUES FOR ETERNITY

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THEN THE SEVENTH ANGEL BLEW HIS TRUMPET, AND THERE WERE LOUD VOICES IN HEAVEN, SAYING, “THE KINGDOM OF THE WORLD HAS BECOME THE KINGDOM OF OUR LORD AND OF HIS CHRIST, AND HE SHALL REIGN FOREVER AND EVER.” —REVELATION 11:15

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¹IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD, AND THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD. ²HE WAS IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD. ³ALL THINGS WERE MADE THROUGH HIM, AND WITHOUT HIM WAS NOT ANY THING MADE THAT WAS MADE. ⁴IN HIM WAS LIFE, AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN... ¹⁴AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH AND DWELT AMONG US, AND WE HAVE SEEN HIS GLORY, GLORY AS OF THE ONLY SON FROM THE FATHER, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH. —JOHN 1:1-4, 14

.022.tif

⁶FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, TO US A SON IS GIVEN; AND THE GOVERNMENT SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER, AND HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL COUNSELOR, MIGHTY GOD, EVERLASTING FATHER, PRINCE OF PEACE. ⁷OF THE INCREASE OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND OF PEACE THERE WILL BE NO END, ON THE THRONE OF DAVID AND OVER HIS KINGDOM, TO ESTABLISH IT AND TO UPHOLD IT WITH JUSTICE AND WITH RIGHTEOUSNESS FROM THIS TIME FORTH AND FOREVERMORE. THE ZEAL OF THE LORD OF HOSTS WILL DO THIS. —ISAIAH 9:6-7

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