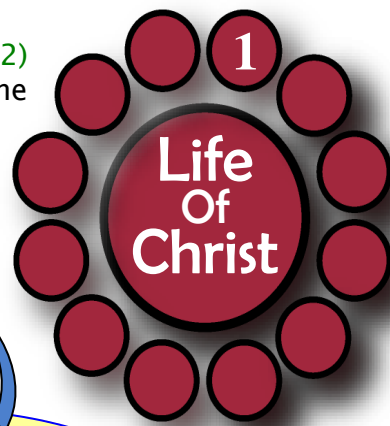


This lesson presents some facts detailed primarily from **Matthew (ch.1&2)** and **Luke's (ch.1&2)** accounts, as they cover the actual events regarding the birth of Jesus.

It is important at the outset of this lesson on the birth of Jesus to consider how each writer of the four Gospels portray God's Son to their readers.

HIS BIRTH

WRITER	MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN
VIEW OF CHRIST	KING OF THE JEWS	SERVANT OF GOD	SON OF MAN	SON OF GOD
WRITTEN TO	JEWS	ROMANS	GREEKS	EVERYONE



You can make a handout of this!

FOUR UNIQUE POINTERS THAT MARKED JESUS AS THE PROMISED MESSIAH!

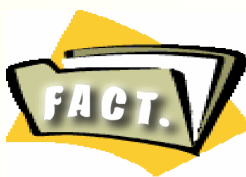
- **GOD FORETOLD THE BIRTH OF JESUS** Read **Luke 1:30-33** and link to **Isaiah 9:6&7**
- **A VIRGIN BIRTH WAS THE ONLY WAY** God's word tells us that *"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."* **Romans 5:12**. So, for a sinless God to become man, He could not have a sinful man as his father. God's answer was to introduce His sinless Son to the world through the womb of a virgin - the miracle of a virgin birth!
- **GOD USED A MIRACLE IN THE SKIES TO MARK HIS SONS ARRIVAL** Could you follow a star from a far country and tell which house it was over? **Matthew 2:9&10**
- **ANGELS ARRIVED TO ANNOUNCE HIS BIRTH** **Luke 2:8-15**

God's method of sending His Son to the world is so unusual and humble it has baffled, confused and upset many and fuelled scoffers worldwide. His virgin birth to Mary and Joseph as His earthly guardian drew criticism **Matthew 13:55**, His childhood in Nazareth brought disdain **John 1:46**. Many wonder that he began life in a stable rather than some royal palace, that his life was spent in poverty but Jesus didn't come to dazzle but to save. **John 3:17** If we were God, would we do it different? How would it be an affront to our dignity to stoop so low? Could we love even this much?

How do you feel when you give something or do something that cost you (financially, emotionally, physically) and it is belittled, ignored or rejected? Would you knowing this would happen, do it anyway? Would you do it for someone who hates you?

(Life of Christ 1- Mark on Map - Bethlehem & Nazareth)

- **NO ONE HONESTLY KNOWS THE ACTUAL DATE OF CHRIST'S BIRTH.** Originally December 25th was a date that was kept as a pagan festival and later was hijacked by Constantine and amalgamated to correspond to Christian tradition. No self respecting shepherd would have his sheep in the cold winter fields at night around Bethlehem at that time of the year.
- **WE ARE NOWHERE TOLD IN HOLY SCRIPTURE THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF WISE MEN.** It has been taken for granted there were three because of the number of gifts that they brought. (Gold, frankincense and myrrh)
- **THE BABY JESUS VISITED BY THE SHEPHERDS WAS NO LONGER IN THE STABLE WHEN THE WISE MEN ARRIVED.** **Matthew** tells us (**ch2:9-11**) that Jesus was a 'young child' in a house when the wise men arrived. Herod later calculated that Jesus could have been up to two years old!



Thank the Father for His great love in sending His Son despite our ungodly state.

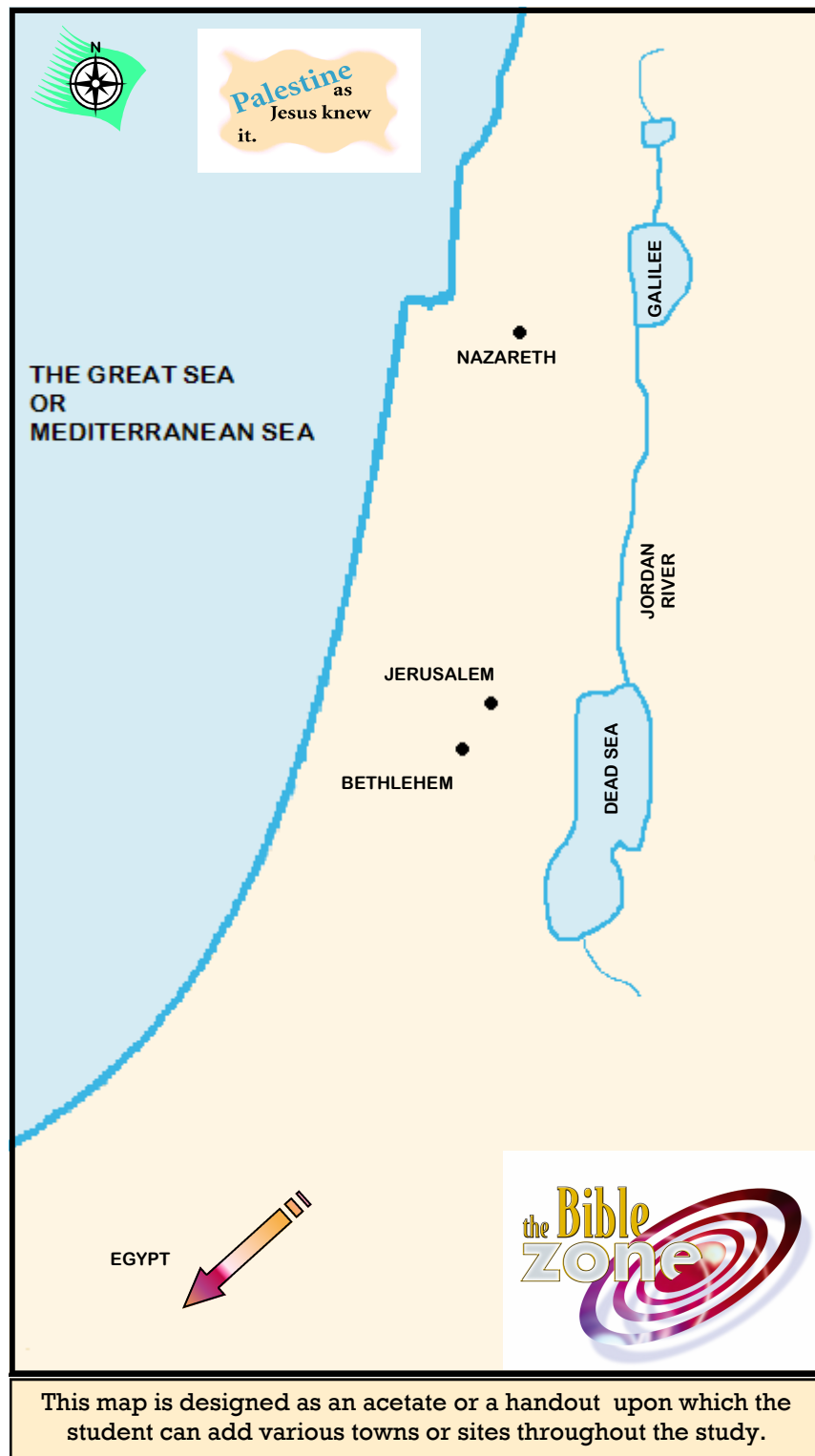


Praise the Lord Jesus Christ for lowering Himself to becoming one of mankind so as to save us from our sins. Acknowledge in prayer the Lord's Deity combining with humanity allowing Him to be our life giver.

(1st Corinthians 15:22)

Ask that God will glorify His Son's name in someone's heart by causing them to receive His gift of salvation.

the Bible
Zone



Life of Christ I(A/H)

