LUKE 2 vs 1



For 2,000 years this chapter has been muddied and remains obscure for some. The LORD told Moses, who told us: 3 times a year, God's people were required to celebrate a festival, and none will appear before Him empty handed -- Exodus 23; reiterated by Moses in Deuteronomy... as all Israel prepared to enter the land promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

They were to bring offerings on: 1 the festival of Unleavened Bread at Passover; 2 the festival of Harvest and First Fruits at **Pentecost**; and 3 the festival of **Ingathering** at the

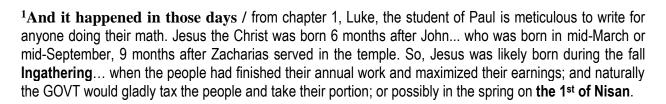
end of the year when they gathered up the work they

did out in the field.

These 3 annual celebrations of great joy... center around 7 very specific Days which belong to the LORD; workdays for Him, specific appointments the LORD will keep. Paul writes: those 7 days were shadows of things to come... fulfilled in Christ / and we know: Christ = the Messiah sent from God. Apart from Him and what He does on those days, the 7 days have no meaning.

Check out the Mount of Olives across from the Temple mount; see if you can find any shepherds keeping watch over their flocks...

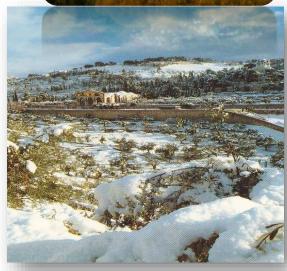
And Luke writes...



By the way, shepherds do not sit in the snow in December freezing their butts while guarding their flocks; by mid-October... the sheep are brought in from the inclement cold and rainy weather. But they are in the fields in September, under the Virgo Constellation; and the 1st of Nisan, the beginning of Passover.

And it happened in those days, there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed / roman scholars will claim they cannot find this decree from Caesar Augustus... and so prove the Bible is problematic. The problem is: if we cannot rely on the biblical record... we NEED NOT rely on the questionable scholarship that invented and polluted for many centuries... due to its fabricated documents... along with the paltry number of extant documents which purport roman history.





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Biblical documents number in the 50,000 fragments... during the first 300 years; roman historical documents number in the 20s over the first 1000 years after Jesus the Messiah came in great humility. Only the roman church seems to know the exact chimney where this historic event took place. But who cares about all that hocus pocus... that makes void the Word of God? We don't; thankfully Jesus grew up.

- ² (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)
- ³ And all went to be taxed, everyone to his own city.
- ⁴ Joseph went from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judaea, to the city of David, that is called Bethlehem / in Hebrew: beth = house + lehem = bread, that would have been about a 5-day journey from the north to the south... to where it is told the Ruler of Israel would come, foretold in Micah; it is the countryside where the little lambs were raised, to then be sacrificed at the Temple;

Joseph went from Galilee (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) / remember when Messiah came the first time in great humility, no descendant of the beloved king David was on the throne; when Messiah comes the second time in great glory... the same will probably be evident to the people... that a worthless Cretan / or as spell check wrote: *crouton*... is in the position of power.

- ⁵ To register to be taxed, with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
- ⁶ And it happened while they were there, the days were complete that she should give birth.
- ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son, and wrapped him in cloths, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn / no kataluma. Solomon wrote, Where no oxen are, the manger is clean... NASB adds: there is no milk without manure. imagine the docile farm animals filling this scene, as the LORD of glory took His place in unthinkable humility to live among us.
- ⁸ And there were in the same country shepherds / poimen 16 times translated: shepherd, and once translated: pastor; that word undeniably points to Jesus the Good Pastor; the Good Shepherd... prophet Ezekiel told us, one day the Shepherd would come and do the job Himself.
- **shepherds staying in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night** / and the shepherds are smart, caring for the sheep; they watched the lambs that were used for all the sacrifices at the Temple in Jerusalem, they weren't freezing their butts in the subzero December weather by night... nor by day!
- ⁹ And, lo / mark this, take note, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them / suddenly a citizen from eternity appeared to them... and a glorious light display filled up the starry night;

and they were very fearful / and if we were to guess, that is an understatement; they were greatly frightened by what suddenly developed; if we were there, we'd be terrified, too.

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¹⁰ And the angel said to them, Do not fear; for, behold, I bring you good news / being seized with fear, this one was sent to assure them with good news: / euangelizo, eu = good + angelizo = announcement, of great joy, which will be to all people.

¹¹ For to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord / and did Messiah come the Day of Trumpets. Is that the meaning of the 2 silver trumpets? It is purely speculative. but it certainly fits the historic calendar. Quite possibly, the other day we can imagine is: Nisan 1; the first day of the religious new year; so like Mary, the shepherds learned their Savior was not found in Rome,

the Messiah was sent by God Himself.

¹² This sign is for you: You will find the baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger / this miraculous wonder... brought by this citizen of eternity who interrupted their evening... was incredibly Good News. So good that on this balmy September or March night, that the shepherds -- caretakers of the select sheep daily offered at the temple; hurried to where Joseph and Mary were led to take shelter... in the shepherds' empty sheepfold in town? Maybe.

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying / in numbers beyond our imagination; one of the first songs I wrote as a punk kid said, perhaps a million angels at the Savior's birth... they ALL wanted to be there!

¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, goodwill / kindness toward mankind.

¹⁵ And it happened, as the angels went away to heaven,

the shepherds emphatically said one to another, Let us go now, to Bethlehem, and see what happened, that the Lord has made known to us / As Dr. Edersheim of Oxford University wrote many years ago, this is not how we tell a fabulous fable... so unembellished and ordinary.

¹⁶ And they hurried, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

¹⁷ And when they saw them, they reported in detail what was told concerning this Child / that a host of citizens had come from God... who had not forgotten His people; that the Savior was born, the Messiah sent by God... Christ the Lord.

¹⁸ And all who heard it marveled at what the shepherds told them.

¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

²⁰ And the shepherds returned... glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, exactly as it was told to them. to care for their sheep in the fields that balmy fall or spring night,

HALLALUJAH I This is My Father's World I JESUS it is YOU