

Christmas One: The Birth of Christ

1. Only two of the Gospel writers in the New Testament records Jesus' birth and the surrounding events: Matthew and Luke. Each gave a somewhat different account than the other. Here is what each emphasized and why.

A. Luke's Gospel: He records God's way in which he used Mary to bring forth the Messiah.

1. The Angel Gabriel appears to Mary.

Luke 1:26-35

2. Mary visits her cousin Elizabeth. **Luke 1:39-42**

B. Matthew's Gospel: He records how God spoke to Joseph and used him to protect Mary and maintain her honor. **Matt. 1:18-25**

1. **Note:** The angel always appeared to Joseph in a dream. See. **Matt. 1:20, Matt. 2:13, 19, 22**

2. The actual birth of Jesus.

A. Luke's account: **Luke 2:3-7**

1. A very humble birth. (the poor can relate)
Mark 12:37, 41-44,
2. No room for them in the Inn.
3. Shepherds in the fields nearby. **Luke 2:8-17**
4. Jesus named and circumcised the eighth day.
Luke 2:21-22
5. Returned to Nazareth. **Luke 2:39**

B. Matthew's account: More majestic: with emphasis of Jesus as the New King.

1. See **Matt. 2:1-2**
2. Travel time from Babylon to Jerusalem was 4 months. See **Ezra 7:9**