"It Turned Out Exactly the Way We Were Told"

Luke 2:8-20

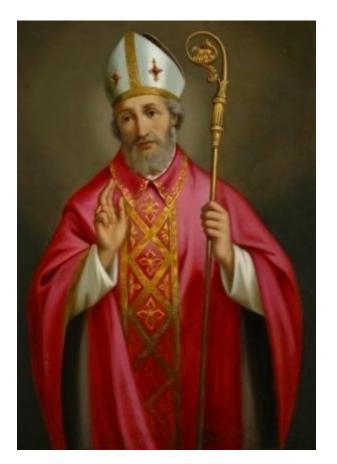
Read Luke 2:8-20 from The Message (on the screen)

Luke 2:20, "The sheepherders returned and let loose, glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard and seen. <u>It</u> <u>turned out exactly the way they'd been told</u>!"

(picture of Winston Churchill)



Anselm, archbishop of Canterbury, England



Micah 5:2, "But you, O <u>Bethlehem</u> 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."

Luke 2:4-7, "And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called <u>Bethlehem</u>, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And <u>she gave birth to her firstborn son</u>..."

Isaiah 7:14, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the <u>virgin</u> shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Matthew 1:18, 24-25, "This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a <u>virgin</u>, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus."

(Here is where I start a genealogy. There are only four names and it could be a downward straight line. Show the first name then the genealogy goes off the screen and the scripture comes on. Then come back to the genealogy and add the second name. Then genealogy goes off the screen and the next scripture. Then add the third name/off screen and scripture/ add Jesus at the bottom/then last scripture/go back to filled our genealogy

- 2100 B.C. Abraham
- 1859 B.C. Judah
- 600 B.C. David
- 4 B.C. Jesus)

Genesis 12:2-3, "And I will make of you <u>Abraham</u> a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing...<u>and in you all the families of the earth shall be</u> <u>blessed."</u>

Genesis 49:10, "The scepter shall not depart from <u>Judah</u>, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples."

Jeremiah 23:5 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will <u>raise up for David a righteous Branch</u>, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."

Matthew 1:1, "The book of the genealogy of <u>Jesus Christ</u>... 1:2, "<u>Abraham</u> was the father of Isaac... 1:3, "And <u>Judah</u> the father of Perez...

1:6, "And <u>David</u> was the father of Solomon...

10 to the 17th power:

- 100,000,000,000,000
- One hundred quadrillion

Genesis 3:15, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; <u>he will crush</u> <u>your head</u>, and <u>you will strike his heel</u>."

I Corinthians 15:54-57, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is your victory? O death where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Revelation 20:10, "And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever."

It turned out exactly the way we were told:

- 1. The particulars of Jesus' birth
- 2. The purpose of His coming: salvation of all
- 3. The personal decision we each have to make: accept or reject

John 3:16,18:

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.

¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.