



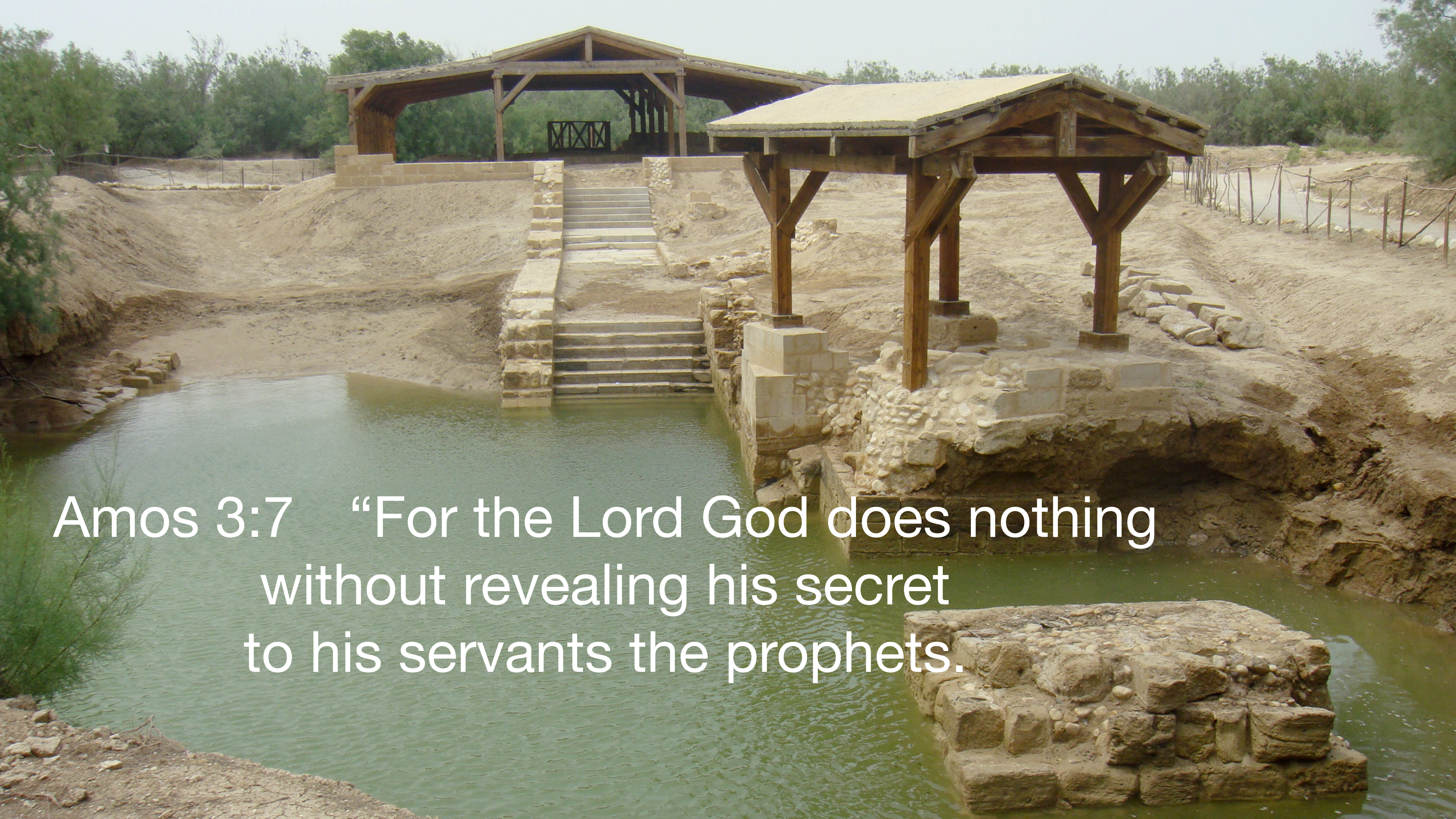
*The Call of Christmas*



The Call of Christmas is foretold by the  
Prophets and announced by the Angels.



Malachi 3:1 “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me.



Amos 3:7 “For the Lord God does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.

Psalms 2:1 Why do the nations rage  
and the peoples plot in vain?

2 The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying,

3 “Let us burst their bonds apart  
and cast away their cords from us.”

4 He who sits in the heavens laughs;  
the Lord holds them in derision.

5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath,  
and terrify them in his fury, saying,

6 “As for me, I have set my King  
on Zion, my holy hill.”

10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

11 Serve the Lord with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling.

12 Kiss the Son,  
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

# Words of Agur

Proverbs 30:4 Who has ascended to heaven and come  
down?

Who has gathered the wind in his fists?

Who has wrapped up the waters in a garment?

Who has established all the ends of the earth?

What is his name, and what is his son's name?

Surely you know!

Isaiah 7:6 For 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.  
7 Of 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 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

Micah 5:1 Now muster your troops, O daughter of  
troops;  
siege is laid against us;  
with a rod they strike the judge of Israel  
on the cheek.

2 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.

Israel was given a sign of Prophecy of Hope 700 years  
before it was fulfilled.

Luke 1:26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

34 And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

35 And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God.”

38 And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.



39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, 40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, 42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

46 And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord,  
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
48 for he has looked on the humble estate of his  
servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call  
me blessed;  
49 for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
50 And his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
51 He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their  
hearts;

52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones  
and exalted those of humble estate;

53 he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent away empty.

54 He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,

55 as he spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

56 And Mary remained with her about three months and  
returned to her home.

Mary returns home after spending three months with Elizabeth.

Matthew 2:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,

and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Why not tell Jospheh first?

Why not tell the whole neighborhood?

The Lord is a gentleman.

The Lord was protecting the integrity of His  
plan and purpose.

There is a faith element to all of this as well just as  
Zechariah learned.



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