

HIStory: Seeing God's Plan in the Bible

Creation → Sin → Flood → Promise → Jesus → Eternity

* God (creation) Adam and Eve, Noah (sin), Abraham, Moses, 10 Commandments, tabernacle, prophecies about Jesus

The Birth of Jesus (Matthew 1-2, Luke 2:1-2)

A. Matthew 1:1 – What is being fulfilled in this verse?

B. What indications in the following verses show that Jesus' birth was unique?

- Matthew 1:20

- Matthew 1:22, 2:4-6

- Luke 2:8-14

C. What names were given to Jesus to describe who He was?

- "Christ" (Matthew 1:18) = anointed one, (OT) Messiah – the one who was prophesied to be the Savior of Israel.

- "Immanuel" (Matthew 1:23) = God with us

- "Savior" (Luke 2:11) = deliverer

- "Jesus" (Luke 1:31) = God is salvation

- "Lord" (Luke 1:43) = supreme in authority, master

- "The Lamb of God" (John 1:29) = an allusion to the sacrificial lambs that were offered in the tabernacle

- Summary: Jesus was the anointed One who would offer salvation from sin as a sacrificial lamb, He was God with us in order to save us.

About God: God loves mankind and prepared a way for us to be with Him for eternity.

- John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

Big Picture: God's promise to Eve (Genesis 3:15) is taking shape. Jesus is the woman's offspring who will "crush the serpent's head. God's promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:2-3) is being fulfilled through Jesus. The promised solution to the problem of sin has arrived!

Application: Since God sent Jesus to save the **world** from sin, we are included in that!

- Have you accepted that gift of Jesus' payment for your sin?

- Who have you shared this great news with? It's not just a Christmas story!

Timeline of Jesus' Birth

Luke 2:11-12 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

