The King From Eternity

Luke 2:1-20 TPT

- V. 4 This *journey* from Nazareth to Bethlehem is about 65 miles and would take a number of days. <u>TPT note</u>: "God controls all events, proven by the prophecy that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem, even though his parents were living in Nazareth."
- **V. 8 TPT note:** "Many scholars believe that these could be the same fields where sacrificial flocks were kept for temple worship. How fitting that these shepherds would hear the announcement of the birth of the Lamb of God."
- V. 11 TPT is from the Aramaic and is one of the most amazing statements declaring the deity of Jesus Christ in the Gospels: "For today in Bethlehem a rescuer was born for you. He is the Lord Yahweh, the Messiah (NKJV "Christ the Lord")."
- **V. 12 TPT note:** "A baby lying in a feeding trough where animals were kept nearby, wrapped in strips of cloths, became a sign of the Man-Savior's life on earth. He entered the world as a lowly baby, and though He is the mighty God, he lived His life on earth in gentleness before all. The shepherds that night were possibly near Bethlehem at Migdal Eder, "the [watch] tower of the flock." This would fulfill both the prophecies of **Mic. 5:2** and **Mic. 4:8**, which say, "to you it [he] will come, your dominion [kingdom] from old will arrive." It was at the lower floor of the watchtower (Migdal Eder) that the birthing of the Passover lambs would take place. Selected ewes that were about to give birth would be brought there. After the birth of the lambs, the priestly shepherds would wrap the lambs in cloth and lay them in a manger lined with soft hay to prevent them from hurting themselves, for Passover lambs must be unblemished with no bruise or broken bone.

The *miracle sign* for these priestly shepherds would be a baby boy lying where the Passover lamb should be – in a manger, wrapped in strips of cloth. It was at the cradle of Jesus Christ that the kingdom from ancient times arrived on earth."

Having God's Interests as our Highest End

Not only does the Lord have all knowledge about everything, past, present and future, but He also has all power to orchestrate circumstances & situations to the best advantage of His glorious Name & for believers in Christ in particular. So, when we, like Mary, have the interests of God's glory as our highest aim, then God can use us for purposes beyond our comprehension.

Luke 1:29-33 TPT "Mary was deeply troubled over the words of the angel and bewildered over what this may mean for her." Mary didn't understand yet the consequences of saying 'yes' to this Divine assignment, until the Angel encouraged her regard-ing Who this was all about, "30. But the angel reassured her, saying, "Do not yield to your fear, Mary, for the Lord has found delight in you and has chosen to surprise you with a wonderful gift. 31. You will become pregnant with a baby boy, and you are to name Him Jesus. 32. He will be supreme and will be known as the Son of the Highest. And the Lord God will enthrone Him as King on His ancestor David's throne. 33. He will reign as King of Israel forever, and His reign will have no limit."

The Angel revealing God's grace in choosing Mary enables her to hear the message of Who this Baby Boy was destined to be, <u>name</u>: "Heb. Yeshua = "He Shall Save"; Gk. Jesus", <u>lineage</u>: "Son of the Highest," <u>authority</u>: "King on His ancestor David's throne," <u>destiny</u>: "His reign will have no limit."

Speaking of Yeshua's ancestor David, David's zeal for the Lord was unparalleled. As he was about to run toward Goliath, David prophetically pronounced the giant's doom (1 Sam. 17:46 NKJV), "This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel." David's motivation in this battle with Goliath was the glory (recognition) of God of Israel!

And now, hundreds of years later, with Mary, a descendent of the line of David (Luke 3) as was Joseph (Matt. 1), a much greater than David is **here**. But "**here**" was supposed to be a particular geographical place according to **Micah 5:2 TPT**, "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah ("Fruitful Bethlehem"), so small among the clans of Judah, from your people will come a ruler who will rule Israel for Me. He will burst forth from the first sunrise from the days of eternity." Statement clearly speaks of the Savior's eternality.

Not to worry, the Lord is in charge and rules in the affairs of men like with King Nebuchadnezzar in **Dan. 4:16-17 TPT**, "For seven years, let his mind be altered into the mind of a beast. **17.** Such is the sentence decreed by the watchers, the decision by the word of the holy ones, so that everyone living may learn that the Most High God is sovereign (or "powerful") over the kingdoms of men. He can give them to whomever he pleases and raises up over them the lowliest of people."

Rev. 1:6 TPT. "and to the one who has appointed us as a kingdom of priests (or "kings and priests") to serve His God and Father – to Him be glory and dominion throughout the eternity of eternities! Amen!"