## Sunday, December 24, 2023 BEFORE THE CREATION OF THE WORLD PART 4: IT CAME TO PASS

## Luke 2:1-20 (NKJV)

"And it came to pass". Jesus' birth was written into history before creation. His was not the only one. Your story was written into history at creation. The two histories were destined to intersect; destined to be entwined into one. As a matter of fact, history as we know it is the story of the joining of the two destinies. Both a product of heaven. Both the image of God. Both destined to love the other. One a Rock. One unstable. One faithful. One a failure. One living. One dying. The only way <u>that</u> one could live was if the other would die.

The birth of Jesus is all about the salvation of the love story. And, even though we celebrate birth – its really about death. We are not told He was born in a stable. We are told He was laid in a manger. The word translated "manger" is best translated "stable". It is interesting to me that in this stable – readily available to them – were swaddling cloths. Bethlehem was the city that raised the Passover lambs used for sacrifice in the Temple. The shepherds used such cloths to wrap the spotless lambs useable for sacrifice in to protect them. Wherever Jesus was born, must have been a place near the field where these lambs were born.

## Micah 4:8 (NKJV)

Many scholars believe that this is a Messianic prophesy of the birth of Jesus. The Tower of the Flock is a former watchtower just outside of Bethlehem. The Jewish name is Migdal Eder. It is mentioned in Genesis 35:19-21 in connection with the death of Rachel. Micah prophesied of the town of Jesus' birth in 5:2-4, could the tower of the flock have been the exact place? Many guides in Israel will tell you it was.

To whom did the angels of God declare the birth of Jesus? Shepherds in the fields outside of Bethlehem. Why shepherds? And why these shepherds? They were responsible for identifying the Passover lamb. No directions to the location of the birth was given. Since the angels told them the Baby was wrapped in swaddling cloths, they already had a clue as to where they could find Him. Everything surrounding Jesus' birth points to His death. Why? For you. For your destiny to come to pass, He must intersect your life and become one with it. This becoming one has been planned from the beginning. Do you recognize your moment?

Today's Scriptures:

- Luke 2:1-20 (NKJV)
- Micah 4:8 (NKJV)