



The Birth of Yeshua HaMashiach

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Matthew 1 ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. His mother, Mary, had promised Joseph to be his wife, *but while she was still a virgin* she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her fiancé, Joseph, was a righteous man full of integrity and he didn't want to disgrace her, but when he learned of her pregnancy he secretly planned to break the engagement. ²⁰ While he was still debating with himself about what to do, he fell asleep and had a supernatural dream. An angel from the Lord appeared to him and said, "Joseph, descendant of David, don't hesitate to take Mary into your home as your wife, because the power of the Holy Spirit has conceived a child in her womb. ²¹ She will give birth to a son and you are to name him 'Savior,' for he is destined to *give his life* to save his people from their sins." ²² This happened to fulfill what the Lord had spoken through his prophet: ²³ Listen! A virgin will be pregnant, she will give birth to a Son, and he will be known as "Emmanuel," which means in Hebrew, "God became one of us." ²⁴ When Joseph woke from his dream, he did all that the angel of the Lord instructed him to do. He took Mary to be his wife, ²⁵ but they refrained from having sex until she gave birth to her firstborn son, whom they named "Jesus."

Matthew 2 ¹ Jesus was born in Bethlehem near Jerusalem during the reign of King Herod. After Jesus' birth a group of spiritual priests from the East came to Jerusalem ² and inquired of the people, "Where is the child who is born king of the Jewish people? We observed his star rising in the sky and we've come to bow before him in worship." ³ King Herod was shaken to the core when he heard this, and not only he, but all of Jerusalem was disturbed when they heard this news. ⁴ So he called a meeting of the Jewish ruling priests and religious scholars, demanding that they tell him where the promised Messiah was prophesied to be born. ⁵ "He will be born in Bethlehem, in the land of Judah," they told him. "Because the prophecy states: ⁶ And you, little Bethlehem, are not insignificant among the clans of Judah, for out of you will emerge the Shepherd-King of my people Israel!" ⁷ Then Herod secretly summoned the spiritual priests from the East to ascertain the exact time the star first appeared. ⁸ And he told them, "Now go to Bethlehem and carefully look there for the child, and when you've found him, report to me so that I can go and bow down and worship him too." ⁹ And on their way to Bethlehem, the same star they had seen in the East suddenly reappeared! Amazed, they watched as it went ahead of them and stopped directly over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ And when they saw the star, they were so ecstatic that they shouted and celebrated with unrestrained joy. ¹¹ When they came into the house and saw the young child with Mary, his mother, they fell to the ground at his feet and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests full of gifts and presented him with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² Afterward they returned to their own country by another route because God had warned them in a dream not to go back to Herod. ¹³ After they had gone, Joseph had another dream. An angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, "Get up now and flee to Egypt. Take Mary and the little child and stay there until I tell you to leave, for Herod intends to search for the child to kill him." ¹⁴ So that very night he got up and took Jesus and his mother and made their escape to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until Herod died. All of this fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through his prophet: I summon my Son out of Egypt. ¹⁶ When Herod realized that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated. So he sent soldiers with orders to slaughter every baby boy two years old and younger in Bethlehem and throughout the surrounding countryside, based on the time frame he was given from interrogating the wise men. ¹⁷ This fulfilled the words of the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ I hear the screams of anguish, weeping, and wailing in Ramah. Rachel is weeping uncontrollably for her children. And she refuses to be comforted, because they are dead and gone. ¹⁹ After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared again to Joseph in a dream while he was still in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, "Go back to the land of Israel and take the child and his mother with you, for those who sought to kill the child are dead." ²¹ So he awoke and took Jesus and Mary and returned to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus, Herod's son, had succeeded him as ruler over all of the territory of Judah, he was afraid to go back. Then he had

another dream from God, warning him to avoid that region and instructing him instead to go to the province of Galilee.²³ So he settled his family in the village of Nazareth, fulfilling the prophecy that he would be known as the “Branch.” TPT

Luke 1 ²⁶⁻²⁷ During the sixth month of Elizabeth’s pregnancy, the angel Gabriel was sent from God’s presence to an unmarried girl named Mary, living in Nazareth, a village in Galilee. She was engaged to a man named Joseph, a true descendant of King David.²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, “Rejoice, beloved young woman, for the Lord is with you and you are *anointed* with great favor.”²⁹ Mary was deeply troubled over the words of the angel and bewildered over what this may mean for her.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 the throne of his ancestor David.³³ He will reign as King of Israel forever, and his reign will have no limit.”³⁴ Mary said, “But how could this happen? I am still a virgin!”³⁵ Gabriel answered, “The Spirit of Holiness will fall upon you and almighty God will spread his shadow of power over you in a cloud of glory! This is why the child born to you will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.³⁶ What’s more, your aged aunt, Elizabeth, has also become pregnant with a son. The ‘barren one’ is now in her sixth month.³⁷ Not one promise from God is empty of power. Nothing is impossible with God!”³⁸ Then Mary responded, saying, “Yes! I will be a mother for the Lord! As his servant, I accept whatever he has for me. May everything you have told me come to pass.” And the angel left her.³⁹ Afterward, Mary arose and hurried off to the hill country of Judea, to the village where Zechariah and Elizabeth lived.⁴⁰ Arriving at their home, Mary entered the house and greeted Elizabeth.⁴¹ At the moment her aunt heard Mary’s voice, the baby within Elizabeth’s womb jumped and kicked. And suddenly, Elizabeth was filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit!⁴² With a loud voice she *prophesied with power*: “Mary! You are a woman given the highest favor and privilege above all others, for your child is destined to bring God great delight.⁴³ How did I deserve such a remarkable honor to have the mother of my Lord come and visit me?⁴⁴ The moment you came in the door and greeted me, my baby danced inside me with joy!⁴⁵ Great favor rests upon you, for you have believed every word spoken to you from the Lord.”⁴⁶ And Mary sang this song: “My soul is ecstatic, overflowing with praises to God!⁴⁷ My spirit bursts with joy over my life-giving God!⁴⁸ For he set his tender gaze upon me, his lowly servant girl. And from here on, everyone will know that I have been favored and blessed.⁴⁹ The Mighty One has worked a mighty miracle for me; holy is his name!⁵⁰ Mercy kisses all who fear him, from one generation to the next.⁵¹ Mighty power flows from him to scatter all those who walk in pride.⁵² Powerful princes he tears from their thrones and he lifts up the lowly *to take their place*.⁵³ Those who hunger for him will always be filled, but the smug and self-satisfied he will send away empty.⁴ Because he can never forget to show mercy, he has helped his chosen servant, Israel,⁵⁵ keeping his promises to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”⁵⁶ Before going home, Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months. The Birth of the Prophet John⁵⁷ When Elizabeth’s pregnancy was full term, she gave birth to a son.⁵⁸ All her family, friends, and neighbors heard about it, and they too were overjoyed, for they realized that the Lord had showered his wonderful mercy upon her.⁵⁹ When the baby was eight days old, according to their custom, all the family and friends came together for the circumcision ceremony. Everyone assumed that the parents would name the baby Zechariah, after his father,⁶⁰ but Elizabeth spoke up and said, “No, his name is John!”⁶¹ “What?” they exclaimed. “No one in your family line has that name!”⁶² So they gestured to the baby’s father to ask what to name the child.⁶³ He motioned for a writing tablet, and to the amazement of all, he wrote, “His name is John.”⁶⁴ Instantly Zechariah could speak again. And his first words were praises to the Lord.⁶⁵ The fear of God fell on the people of their village, and the news of this astounding event traveled throughout the hill country of Judea. Everyone was in awe over it!⁶⁶ All who heard this news were astonished and wondered, “*Since a miracle brought his birth*, what on earth will this child become? Clearly, God’s presence is upon this child in a powerful way!”⁶⁷ Then Zechariah was filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit and he prophesied, saying:⁶⁸ “Praise be to the exalted Lord God of Israel, for he has seen us through eyes of grace, and he comes as our Hero-God to set us free!⁶⁹ He appears to us as a mighty Savior, a trumpet of redemption from the house of David, his servant,⁷⁰ just as he promised long ago by the words of his holy prophets.⁷¹ They prophesied he would come one day

and save us from every one of our enemies and from the power of those who hate us. ⁷² Now he has shown us the mercy promised to our ancestors, for he has remembered his holy covenant. ⁷³⁻⁷⁵ He has rescued us from the power of our enemies, fulfilling the sacred oath he made with our father Abraham. Now we can boldly worship God with holy lives, living in purity as priests in his presence every day! ⁷⁶ And to you I prophesy, my little son, you will be known as the prophet of the Most High. You will be a forerunner, going before the face of Lord Yahweh, to prepare hearts to embrace his ways. ⁷⁷ You will preach to his people the revelation of salvation, the cancellation of all our sins, *to bring us back to God.* ⁷⁸ The splendor-light of heaven's glorious sunrise is about to break upon us in holy visitation, all because the merciful heart of our God is so very tender. ⁷⁹ The word from heaven will come to us with dazzling light to shine upon those who live in darkness, near death's dark shadow. And he will illuminate the path that leads to the way of peace." ⁸⁰ Afterward, their son grew up and was strengthened by the Holy Spirit and he grew in his love for God. John chose to live in the lonely wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel. TPT

Luke 2 ¹⁻² During those days, the Roman emperor, Caesar Augustus, ordered that the first census be taken throughout his empire. (Quirinius was the governor of Syria at that time.) ³ Everyone had to travel to the hometown of their family to complete the mandatory census. ⁴⁻⁵ So Joseph and his wife, Mary, left Nazareth, a village in Galilee, and journeyed to their hometown in Judea, to the village of Bethlehem, King David's ancient home. They were required to register there, since they were both direct descendants of David. Mary was pregnant and nearly ready to give birth. ⁶⁻⁷ When they arrived in Bethlehem, Mary went into labor, and there she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped the newborn baby in strips of cloth, and Mary and Joseph laid him in a feeding trough since there was no available space in any upper room in the village. ⁸ That night, in a field near Bethlehem, shepherds were watching over their flocks. ⁹ Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared in radiant splendor before them, lighting up the field with the blazing glory of God, and the shepherds were terrified! ¹⁰ But the angel reassured them, saying, "Don't be afraid, for I have come to bring you good news, the most joyous news the world has ever heard! And it is for everyone everywhere!" ¹¹ For today in Bethlehem a rescuer was born for you. He is the Lord Yahweh, the Messiah. ¹² You will recognize him by this miraculous sign: You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in the feeding trough!" ¹³ Then all at once *in the night sky*, a vast number of glorious angels appeared, the very armies of heaven! And they all praised God, singing: ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest realms of heaven! For there is peace and a good hope given to the sons of men." ¹⁵ When the choir of angels disappeared and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go! Let's hurry and find this Word who is born in Bethlehem and see for ourselves what the Lord has revealed to us." ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found their way to Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in a feeding trough. ¹⁷ Upon seeing this miraculous sign, the shepherds recounted what had just happened. ¹⁸ Everyone who heard the shepherds' story was astonished by what they were told. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these things in her heart and often pondered what they meant. ²⁰ The shepherds returned to their flock, ecstatic over what had happened. They praised God and glorified him for all they had heard and seen for themselves, just like the angel had said. ²¹ On the day of the baby's circumcision ceremony, eight days after his birth, his parents gave him the name Jesus, the name prophesied by the angel before he was born. ²² Forty days after the birth of her son, Mary's time of purification had completed, so she came to the temple with a sacrifice, according to the law of Moses. So Mary and Joseph took baby Jesus to Jerusalem to be dedicated before the Lord. ²³ For it is stated in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be set apart for God" ²⁴ and is required to offer a prescribed sacrifice, "either a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵ As they came to the temple to fulfill this requirement, an *elderly* man was there waiting—a resident of Jerusalem whose name was Simeon. He was a very good man, a lover of God who kept himself pure, and the Spirit of holiness rested upon him. Simeon believed in the imminent appearing of the one called "The Refreshing of Israel." ²⁶ For the Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would not see death before he saw the Messiah, the Anointed One of God. ²⁷ *Keeping his promise*, the Holy Spirit led Simeon to be in the temple court at the very moment Jesus' parents entered to fulfill the requirement of the sacrifice. ²⁸ Simeon cradled the baby in his arms and praised God and prophesied: ²⁹⁻³¹ "Lord and Master, I am your loving servant, and now I can die content, for you have fulfilled your promise to me. With my own eyes I have seen your Word, the Savior you sent into the world. ³² He will

be glory for your people Israel, and the Revelation-Light for all people everywhere!"³³ Mary and Joseph stood there, awestruck over what was being said about their baby. Simeon then blessed them and prophesied over Mary, saying:³⁴⁻³⁵ "A painful sword will one day pierce your inner being, for your child will be rejected by many in Israel. And the destiny of your child is this: he will be laid down as a miracle sign for the downfall and resurrection of many in Israel. Many will oppose this sign, but it will expose to all the innermost thoughts of their hearts before God."³⁶⁻³⁷ A prophetess named Anna was also in the temple court that day. She was from the tribe of Asher and the daughter of Phanuel. Anna was an aged widow who had been married only seven years before her husband passed away. After he died she chose to worship God in the temple continually. For the past eighty-four years she had been serving God with night-and-day prayer and fasting.³⁸ While Simeon was prophesying over Mary and Joseph and the baby, Anna walked up to them and burst forth with a great chorus of praise to God for the child. From that day forward she told everyone in Jerusalem who was waiting for their redemption that the anticipated Messiah had come!³⁹ When Mary and Joseph had completed everything required of them by the Law of the Lord, they took Jesus and returned to their home in Nazareth in Galilee.⁴⁰ The child grew more powerful in grace, for he was being filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to worship at Jerusalem during the Passover festival.⁴² When Jesus turned twelve, his parents took him to Jerusalem to observe the Passover, as was their custom.⁴³ A full day after they began their journey home, Joseph and Mary realized that Jesus was missing.⁴⁴ They had assumed he was somewhere in their entourage, but he was nowhere to be found. After a frantic search among relatives and friends,⁴⁵ Mary and Joseph returned to Jerusalem to search for him.⁴⁶ After being separated from him for three days, they finally found him in the temple, sitting among the Jewish teachers, listening to them and asking probing questions.⁴⁷ All who heard Jesus speak were awestruck at his intelligent understanding of all that was being discussed and at his wise answers to their questions.⁴⁸ His parents were shocked to find him there, and Mary scolded him, saying, "Son, your father and I have searched for you everywhere! We have been worried sick over not finding you. Why would you do this to us?"⁴⁹ Jesus said to them, "Why would you need to search for me? Didn't you know that it was necessary for me to be here in my Father's house, consumed with him?"⁵⁰ Mary and Joseph didn't fully understand what Jesus meant.⁵¹ Jesus went back home with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother treasured Jesus' words deeply in her heart.⁵² As Jesus grew, so did his wisdom and maturity. The favor of men increased upon his life, for he was *greatly* loved by God. TPT

John 1 ¹ In the beginning the Living Expression was already there. And the Living Expression was with God, yet fully God. ² They were together—*face-to-face*, in the very beginning. ³ And through his creative inspiration this Living Expression made all things, for nothing has existence apart from him! ⁴ A *fountain of life* was in him, for his life is light for all humanity. ⁵ And this Light never fails to shine through darkness—Light that darkness could not overcome! ⁶ *Suddenly* a man appeared who was sent from God, a messenger named John. ⁷ For he came as a witness, to point the way to the *Light of Life*, and to help everyone believe. ⁸ John was not that Light but he came to show who is. For he was merely a messenger to speak the truth about the Light. ⁹ For the perfect Light of Truth was coming into the world and shine upon everyone. ¹⁰ He entered into the world he created, yet the world was unaware. ¹¹ He came to the people he created—to those who should have received him, but they did not recognize him. ¹² But those who embraced him and took hold of his name he gave authority to become the children of God! ¹³ He was not born by the joining of human parents or from natural means, or by a man's desire, but he was born of God. ¹⁴ And so the Living Expression became a man and lived among us! We gazed upon his glory, the glory of the One and Only who came from the Father overflowing with tender mercy and truth! ¹⁵ John announced the truth about him when he taught the people, "He's the One! He's the One I've been telling you would come after me, even though he ranks far above me, because he existed before I was even born." ¹⁶ And from the overflow of his fullness we received grace heaped upon more grace! ¹⁷ Moses gave us the Law, but Jesus, the Anointed One, unveils truth wrapped in tender mercy. No one ever before gazed upon *the full splendor of God* except his uniquely beloved Son, who is cherished by the Father and held close to his heart. Now that he has come to us, he has unfolded the full explanation of who God truly is! TPT