

Ps. Obed Martinez - Online Campus

THE ANNOUNCEMENT SERIES

December 5, 2021

“CONNECTING THE DOTS”

4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. 6 So it was that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. 7 And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. – **Luke 2:4-7 (NKJV)**

- *Humans have this desire to find the most meaningful moments and purpose even in random events in life*
- *We long for a narrative a comprehensive explanation of History and experience; it insures there is a purpose to everything*

WE SAY THINGS LIKE:

- *“Everything happens for a Reason”*
- *“I don’t believe in Coincidence”*
- *“I guess it wasn’t meant for me”*

“We do everything to connect the dots; to discover the MEANING and the WHY!”

THE MANGER SCENE:

- *The Angels worshipped Him – Luke 2:8-14*
- *The Shepherds worshipped Him – Luke 2:8-20*
- *The Wise Men worshipped Him - Matthew 2:1-11*
- *The animals, in their own way, worshipped Him – Romans 1:19-20*

“Christmas is the MOMENT that God invited us to Experience THE CONNECTION, THE STORY of the Savior born in an Manger!”

THE PROPHECY OF CHRISTMAS:

2 “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, From everlasting.” 3 Therefore He shall give them up Until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; Then the remnant of His brethren Shall return to the children of Israel. 4 And He shall stand and feed His flock In the strength of the Lord, In the majesty of the name of the Lord His God; And they shall abide, For now He shall be great To the ends of the earth; 5 And this One shall be peace. – **Micah 5:2-5 (NKJV)**

4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. – **Galatians 4:4-5 (NKJV)**

“If there was a FULLNESS it must have been sent in PIECES”

- The **PLACE** it Happened
- The **PEOPLE** it Happened to
- The **PRAISE** that was Given

1. THE PLACE IT HAPPENED

And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. – **Luke 2:7 (NIV)**

“The Dirty Place He was Born In; is a Perfect Scene of a Dirty Life He is Born Again Into!”

Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. – **John 6:35 (NIV)**

- **Manger Definition** - A Feeding Trough where animals would find their Food
- **Bethlehem Definition** – “House of Bread” in Hebrew

“Jesus was Born in a City Called “The House of Bread” and laid in a Manger to be the “Bread of Life”

2. THE PEOPLE IT HAPPENED TO

8 That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep. **9** Then an angel of the Lord stood before them. The glory of the Lord was shining around them, and they became very frightened. **10** The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I am bringing you good news that will be a great joy to all the people. **11** Today your Savior was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord. **12** This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in pieces of cloth and lying in a feeding box.” – **Luke 2:8-12 (NCV)**

- **Shepherds** – These men were rude, vile men, known for their sinful lives and evil ways

“The Church is not a Palace for the Prestige but a Hospital for the Hurting”

3. THE PRAISE THAT WAS GIVEN

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, **14** “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” **15** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” – **Luke 2:13-15 (NIV)**

THE PATTERN:

- *He was born in a DIRTY Place (Changed Life)*
- *He then went to a HOLY Place (Church Life) – Luke 2:42*
- *He then FOUND His Place (Purposeful Life) – Luke 3:22*

“His MANGER became your MIRACLE to experience a CHANGED LIFE, have a CHURCH LIFE, and live out a PURPOSEFUL LIFE”

