

The Birth of Jesus

Lesson aim: To show that the events of Jesus' birth support the theme of the gospels that He is the Christ, the Son of God.

The explanation to Joseph--Mt. 1:18-25

- 1. What evidence supports the fact that Jesus was born of a virgin?*
- 2. What is the significance of the fact that Jesus was born in this way?*

The birth of Christ--Lk. 2:1-7

The visit of the shepherds--Lk. 2:8-20

- 1. How did the angels describe Jesus to the shepherd? What sign did they give to confirm their message?*
- 2. How did the shepherds confirm the truthfulness of what the angels had told them?*

The circumcision & presentation of Jesus at the temple--Lk. 2:21-38

(Perhaps a quick trip to Nazareth for belongings and return to live in Bethlehem, Lk. 2:39)

1. *Explain why Mary and Joseph circumcised Jesus and made the offering of turtledoves described in this section.*
2. *Summarize the testimony of Simeon.*
3. *What was the emphasis of the prophetess Anna's remarks about Jesus?*

Research challenge:



Using your references or a Bible encyclopedia, find more information from the OT about the birth ceremonies at the temple. What was meaning and purpose of these actions in the Jewish religion?