



The Story of the Bible

Bible 101
New Life U
Pastor Tim LeCroy

Review - God Pursues His People

- The entire Bible is a story of God's people running away from him and God pursuing them.
- Time after time after time
- We sin, we run away
- God pursues, God restores



Review: Exile and Empire

- Destruction of the Babylonians
- Preparations for return
- Return but not fully restored
- Post-Exilic Prophets continue to call the people to faithfulness
- Intertestamental Period



Lesson 4: The Life of Jesus, The Messiah

- OT prophecies of Messiah
- The Birth of Yeshua ben Yosef
- Early childhood
- Teenage years and early adulthood
- Baptism by John
- Temptation in the wilderness
- First miracle at Cana; First sermon in Nazareth
- Three year itinerate ministry
- Holy Week
- Resurrection
- Ascension
- Later appearances
- Return



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Genesis 3:15
 - I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Genesis 3:15
- Genesis 12:3
 - I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Genesis 3:15
- Genesis 12:3
- Numbers 24:17
 - I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near: a star shall come out of Jacob, and a scepter shall rise out of Israel; it shall crush the forehead of Moab and break down all the sons of Sheth.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Genesis 3:15
- Genesis 12:3
- Numbers 24:17
- Deuteronomy 18:18
 - I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.



Old testament

Prophecies of Messiah

- 2 Samuel 7:12-16
 - When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. 13 He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be to him a father, and he shall be to me a son. When he commits iniquity, I will discipline him with the rod of men, with the stripes of the sons of men, 15 but my steadfast love will not depart from him, as I took it from Saul, whom I put away from before you. 16 And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever."



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- 2 Samuel 7:12-16
- Psalm 2:12
 - Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.
- Psalm 110:1
 - The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- 2 Samuel 7:12-16
- Psalm 2:12
- Psalm 110:1
- Psalm 22
 - My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? (1)
 - they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots. (18)



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Isaiah 7:14
 - Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.
- Isaiah 9:6-7
 - For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Isaiah 42:1-4
 - Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. 2 He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; 3 a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. 4 He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Isaiah 42:1-4
- Isaiah 52:13-15
 - Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted. 14 As many were astonished at you-- his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance, and his form beyond that of the children of mankind-- 15 so shall he sprinkle many nations. Kings shall shut their mouths because of him, for that which has not been told them they see, and that which they have not heard they understand.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Isaiah 42:1-4
- Isaiah 52:13-15
- Isaiah 53:1-5
 - Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? 2 For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. 3 He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. 4 Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Daniel 7:13-14
 - "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. 14 And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Daniel 7:13-14
- Micah 5:2
 - But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.
- Zechariah 9:9
 - Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Daniel 7:13-14
- Micah 5:2
- Zechariah 9:9
- Malachi 3:1
 - Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.



Old testament Prophecies of Messiah

- Daniel 7:13-14
- Micah 5:2
- Zechariah 9:9
- Malachi 3:1
- Malachi 4:5-6
 - "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. 6 And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."



OT Prophecies of the Messiah

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JUST A
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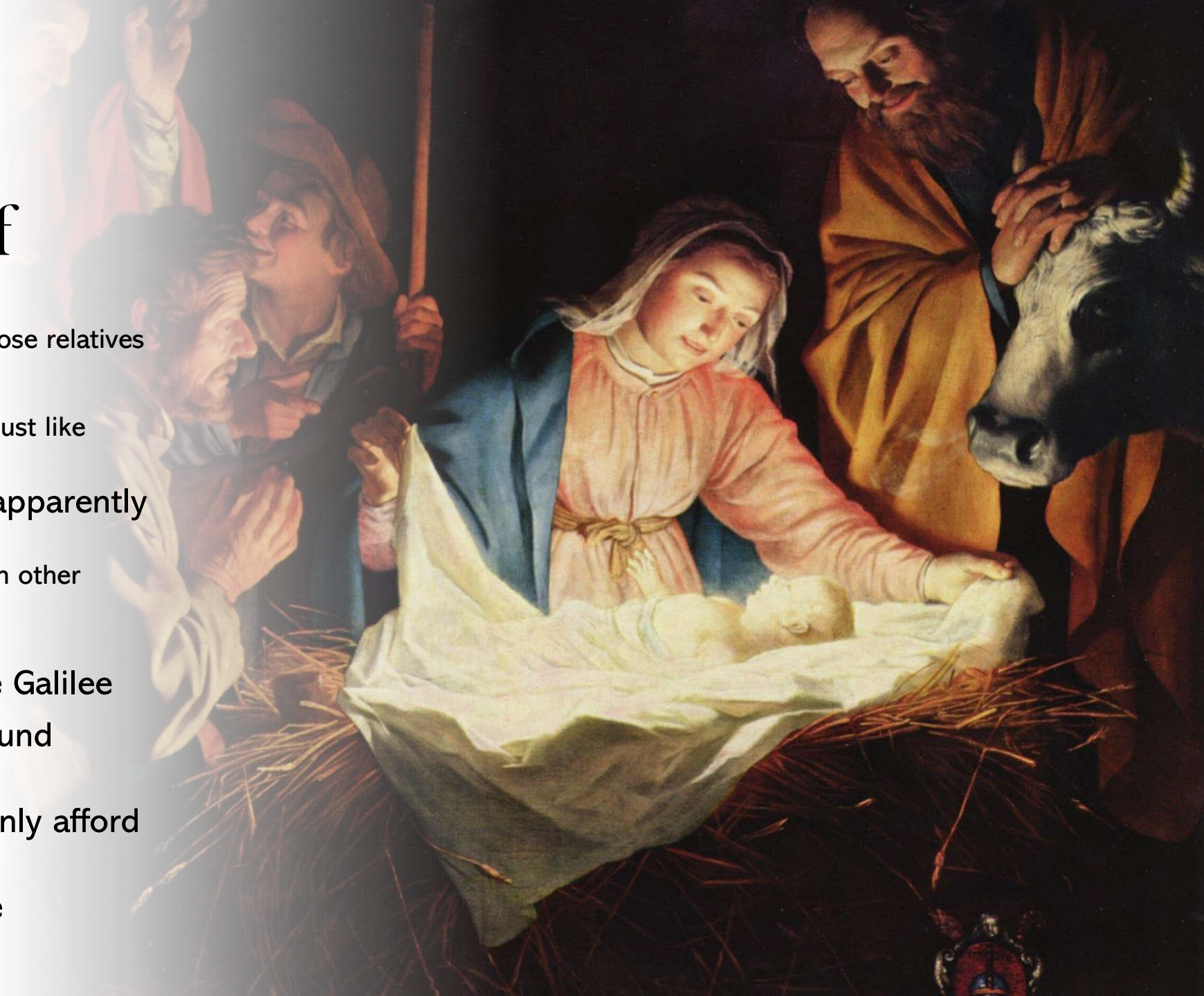
The Birth of Yeshua ben Yosef

- Matthew and Luke
- During the reign of Caesar Augustus, around the year 2 BC, the Angel Gabriel appeared to three different people
 - Zechariah
 - Mary
 - Joseph
- Factors in the dating of Jesus's birth
 - Luke 3:1: JtB began baptizing in 28/29AD
 - Luke 3:23: Jesus began ministry at about 30 years old
 - Herod the Great died in 1BC



The Birth of Yeshua ben Yosef

- Mary was of the priestly clan
 - Elizabeth and Zechariah are her close relatives
- Joseph was of the Davidic line
 - Jesus is adopted into David's line, just like Augustus!
- Mary was betrothed to Joseph, apparently a good bit older than her
 - He might have been a widower with other children
- They lived in a very diverse Gentile/Jewish area around Lake Galilee
- But they were from the area around Bethlehem in the South
- They were poor, as they could only afford the sacrifice of two turtledoves.
- Joseph was a carpenter by trade



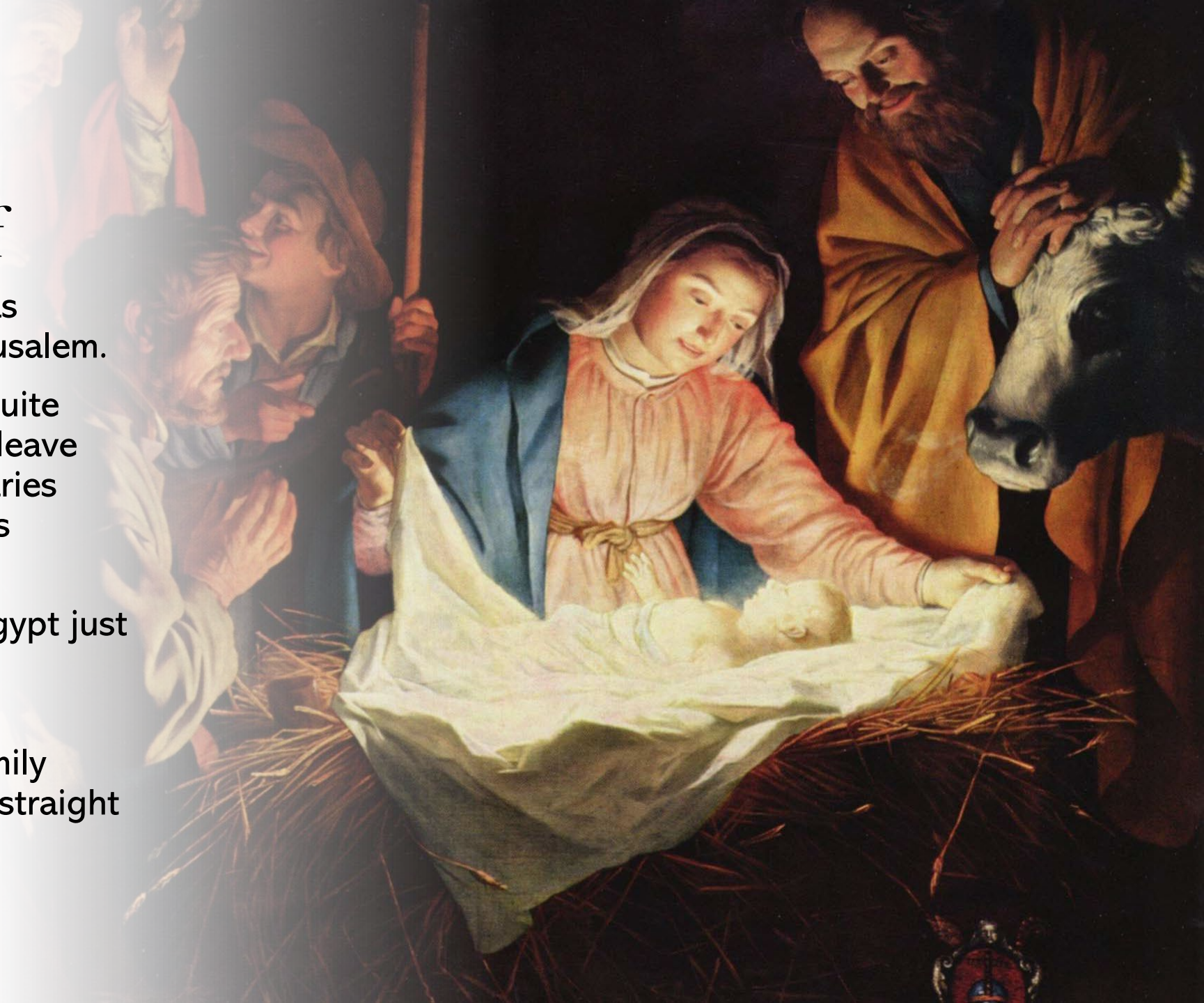
The Birth of Yeshua ben Yosef

- After Gabriel appeared to Mary, she conceived by the Holy Spirit and made a journey to the region around Bethlehem to visit Elizabeth who was six months pregnant.
- She returned to Nazareth
- Later that year Augustus called for a census of the Empire that required people to travel to their ancestral homes to register for the purposes of taxation.
 - Record of this census has been lost to history
- Jesus was born in the common area of the home where the animals stayed during the night (evidence of a winter birth?)



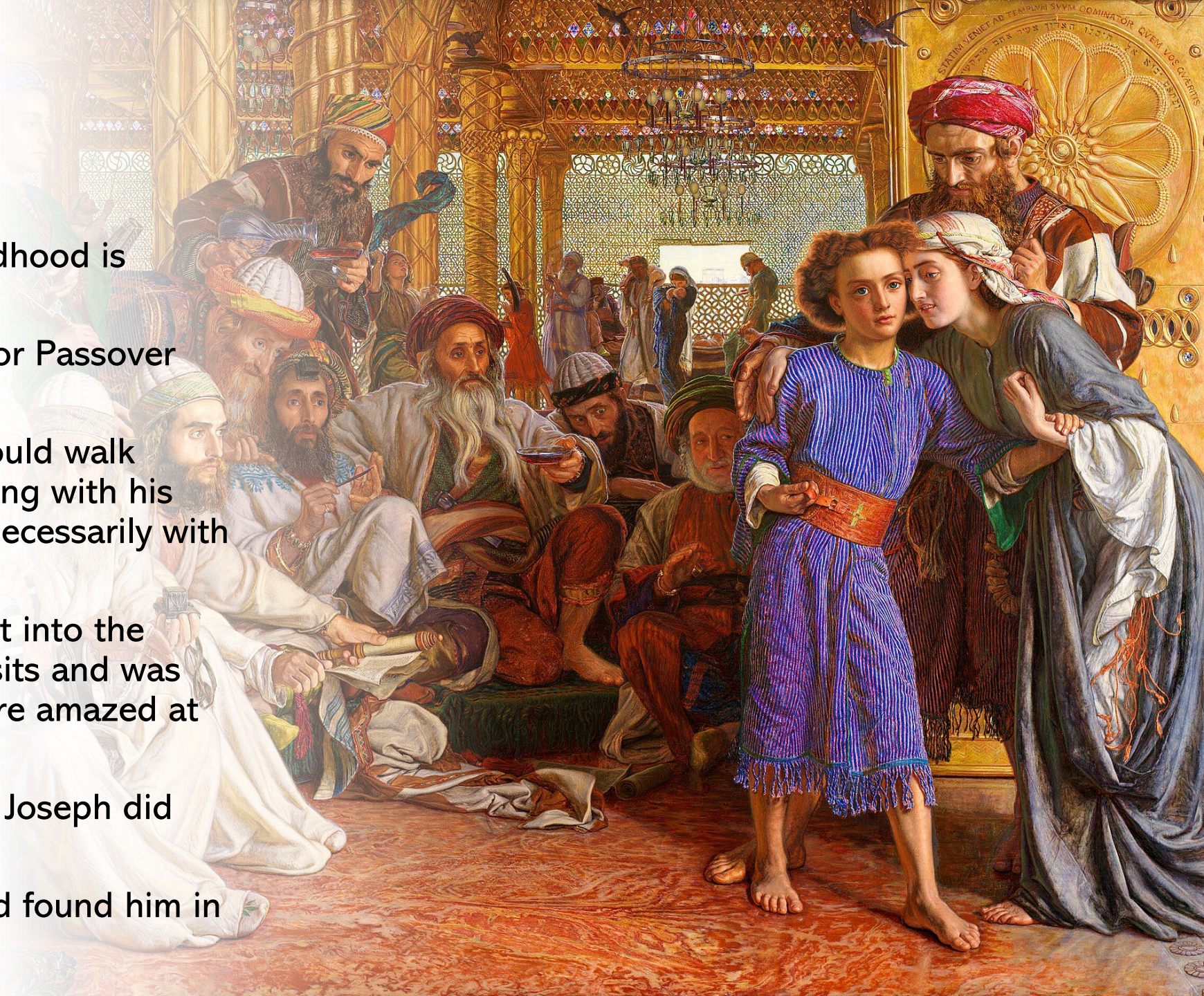
The Birth of Yeshua ben Yosef

- Forty days after his birth he was presented at the Temple in Jerusalem.
- They stayed in Bethlehem for quite some time, but were forced to leave after the visit of foreign dignitaries looking for the King of the Jews sparked the ire of Herod.
- Joseph and his family fled to Egypt just before Herod had all the boys slaughtered in the area.
- After Herod died (1 BC) the family returned from Egypt, but went straight to Galilee because Herod's son Archelaus was out to get them.



Early childhood

- The only story from Jesus' childhood is recorded in Luke 2:39-52
- The family went to Jerusalem for Passover each year.
- A large caravan of travelers would walk together. Jesus would be walking with his friends and relations and not necessarily with his parents.
- Once, when he was 12 he went into the Temple during one of these visits and was teaching the teachers, who were amazed at him. He stayed too long.
- The caravan left, but Mary and Joseph did not realize he had been left.
- They returned to Jerusalem and found him in the Temple holding forth.



Teenage years and early adulthood

- We aren't given any information in Scripture about his teenage years and early adulthood.
- There are some apocryphal stories, but they are purely legendary
- At some point during this time Joseph died, because he isn't on the scene when Jesus starts his ministry.
- Jesus worked as a carpenter and supported his mother, Mary
- They remained in Nazareth during this time



Baptism by John

- Sometime in the year 28/29 AD John son of Zechariah began to preach and baptize by the Jordan River (Luke 3:1)
- Some time after this, Jesus traveled to where John was preaching and approached him to be baptized. (Mt, Mk, Lk)
- This baptism was symbolic of Jesus ushering in a new creation.
- It also stands for his anointing as Messiah.
- Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of his ministry



Temptation in the wilderness

- After this, the synoptic gospels record Jesus being driven into the desert by the Holy Spirit to be tested.
- He fasted for 40 days in the desert
 - Moses and Elijah also did this
- At the end he was tired and hungry
- Satan tempted him three times
 - Food
 - Political power
 - Presumption/testing God
- Jesus withstood the temptations that Adam and Eve failed



First Miracle at Cana; First Sermon in Nazareth

- John 2 records the first miracle Jesus did: turning water into wine for a wedding in the town of Cana
- The celebration had run out of wine, so at his mother's request, Jesus turned an enormous amount of water into wine to bless the celebration and the young couple.
- Luke 4 records Jesus delivering his first sermon at the synagogue in Nazareth.
- He read from Isaiah 61 and preached that the prophecy referred to him.
- The people got angry and tried to kill him.



Three year itinerate ministry

- From there Jesus set out on a three-year ministry
- He traveled from place to place, preaching a version of the Sermon on the Mount and performing miracles
- The miracles served to confirm that his teaching had authority
- He called 12 disciples to follow him and learn from him
- He had many run-ins with the religious leaders. He was masterful at answering their challenges.
- In his teachings, he claimed to be the Messiah, and even claimed to be God



Holy Week

- A large portion of the Four Gospels concerns narration of the final week of Jesus' life, traditionally called Holy Week
- On Sunday he triumphally entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey, a symbol of Davidic kingship
- He went into the Temple each day, teaching and challenging the leaders
- On Wednesday he was betrayed
- On Thursday he celebrated the Last Supper



Holy Week

- He spent the last hours of Thursday praying in the Garden of Gethsemane
- Just after midnight he was betrayed by Judas with a kiss and arrested by the Romans while exiting the garden.
- In the early hours of Friday morning, the Sanhedrin put on a hasty trial and condemned him to death for blasphemy.
- But they could not carry out the sentence. They took him to Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor, to convince him to execute Jesus.



Holy Week

- Pilate questioned Jesus, but found no fault in him. He resolved to release him.
- The Judean leaders would not hear of it. They proclaimed loyalty to Caesar and demanded the crucifixion of Jesus.
- Pilate had Jesus flogged and then condemned him to death on a cross.
- Jesus was arrayed in a purple road and forced to carry the cross beam up to the hill of Calvary (Golgotha, where Goliath's skull was buried)
- On the way he stumbled, a man named Simon from Cyrene was chosen to carry the cross.



Holy Week

- When he arrived at Golgotha (Calvary) the Romans crucified him by nailing his hands to the cross bar and his feet to the vertical pillar.
- Mark records that Jesus was crucified at 9am on Friday.
- All three synoptics record that there was darkness over the land from noon to three PM.
 - Some think this was a solar eclipse, but all four gospels record Jesus crucifixion at Passover, and that happens just after a full moon.
- At 3PM Jesus died, a relatively quick death for crucifixion.



Holy Week

- His body was removed from the cross after being confirmed to be dead by a Roman soldier stabbing him with a spear in the side.
- A rich man, named Joseph of Arimathea offered his brand new tomb to bury Jesus in.
- He was wrapped in a burial shroud, but otherwise typical preparations were postponed due to impending Sabbath.
- On Saturday everyone rested as was the commandment.



Resurrection

- Early in the morning on Sunday, several of the women made their way to the tomb to perform the customary burial preparations.
- They would wash the body and apply many herbs and spices, including myrrh.
- When they arrived they found the large stone at the opening of the tomb rolled away and nothing inside.
- Two angels appeared to them and told them that Jesus was not there, but he had risen.
- The women were told to go and proclaim the news that Jesus had risen from the dead, just as he predicted.



Ascension

- Jesus appeared to his disciples many times over the period of 40 days.
- Paul records that one time he appeared to over 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:6)
- He continued to teach them and prepare them for his departure.
- 40 days after his resurrection, Jesus took the disciples to a mountain in Galilee.
- Jesus was lifted up from the mountain into the air and departed in a cloud.
- Before he left he gave the disciples the Great Commission



Later Appearances

- Jesus later appeared to a Pharisee named Saul who was persecuting Christians while on his way to Damascus.
- He saw a blinding light and saw a vision of Jesus saying, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?”
- Saul was converted to faith in Jesus Christ and changed his name to Paul.
- Jesus also appeared to the Apostle John later in his life while he was in exile on the Island of Patmos.
- Jesus gave John messages to seven churches and visions of the future.



Return

- Before he departed, Jesus gave predictions that he would one day return.
- The apostles' also spoke of this return in their writings.
- At his return Jesus will judge evil, remove it from the world, and usher in a New Creation where there no pain, death, or sin.
- The return of Jesus is imminent, meaning it could happen at any moment, without warning.





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