

Christmas 2022 – The King has been born

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Subtitle: Jesus Christ is King of kings & Lord of lords

1. Prophetic Announcement of the Birth & Kingship of Jesus Christ

Isaiah 9:6–7 (NKJV) *For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.*

- At this time of the year we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ
- Isaiah prophesied the birth of Christ about 700 years before it finally took place (approx. 2000 years ago)
- The 1st feature listed about Christ: *the government will be upon His shoulder ...*
- In other words, He will have & carry authority and dominion
- *Vs.7 Of the increase of His government & peace there will be no end...*
- Christ's dominion and authority will be border-less and all encompassing
- *... upon the throne of David and over His kingdom ...*
- Jesus Christ will soon sit on the throne of David in Jerusalem, and He will be established King over God's Kingdom on earth
- Since His resurrection 2,000 years ago, Jesus Christ has been the King over His spiritual kingdom, which encompasses all born again believers
- At the Second Coming of Christ, He will become King over Israel and over God's (literal) physical Kingdom on earth

Micah 5:2 (NET) *As for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, seemingly insignificant among the clans of Judah— **from you a king will emerge who will rule over Israel on my behalf, one whose origins are in the distant past.***

- Micah prophesied the emergence (birth) of King Jesus from the village of Bethlehem
- Jesus Christ is the future King of Israel, and will rule it on God's behalf
- This prophecy will be fulfilled during the Millennial Reign of Christ
- At that time, all nations on earth will become subservient to King Jesus

Jeremiah 3:17 (NET) *At that time the city of Jerusalem will be called the Lord's throne. All nations will gather there in Jerusalem to honor the Lord's name ...*

Revelation 11:15 (AMP) *The seventh angel then blew [his] trumpet, and there were mighty voices in heaven, shouting, **The dominion (kingdom, sovereignty, rule) of the world has now come into the possession and become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ (the Messiah), and He shall reign forever and ever (for the eternities of the eternities)!***

- In the O.T. God foretold, not only the birth of Jesus Christ, but also His future reign as King & Supreme Ruler over God's Kingdom on earth
- God first declares the end, and then He starts at the beginning, and brings it all to pass

Isaiah 46:9–11 (NKJV) *Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, **10 declaring the end from the beginning,** and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and **I will do all My pleasure.'** **11 ... I have spoken it; I will also bring it to pass. I have purposed it; I will also do it.***

2. The Gospel Account of the Announcement & Birth of Jesus Christ

Luke 1:26–33 (NKJV) *Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, **27** to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. **28** And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!" **29** But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. **30** Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. **31** And behold, **you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus.** **32** **He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.** **33** **And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.**"*

- The announcement was to Mary, but our focus today should be on Christ
- Notice the phrases:
 - *Conceive in your womb*
 - *Bring forth a Son*
 - *Call His name Jesus*
 - *He will be great*

- *Called the Son of the Highest*
- *The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David*
- *He will reign over the house of Jacob*
- *Of His kingdom there will be no end (borderless & all encompassing)*

Luke 2:8–14 (NKJV) *Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. 10 Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a **Savior, who is Christ the Lord.** 12 And this will be the sign to you: **You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.**” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”*

- The angel announced to the shepherds good news of great joy
- After multiple prophecies given centuries earlier, the time of Christ’s birth had finally come
- Notice, before the angel speaks of “Baby Jesus”, he tells them about “Christ the Lord”
- Vs. 11 *For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*
- Vs. 12 ... *find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger ...*
- The angel speaks of two features of Christ: Saviour & Lord
- If the Lordship of Jesus Christ is not recognised and accepted, then His Saviour-ship cannot be accessed

2 Peter 1:11 (NirV) *You will receive a rich welcome into the kingdom that lasts forever. It is **the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.***

- Peter always speaks of Christ as Lord first before Christ as Saviour

3. Jesus Christ speaks of His own kingship before Pilate

John 18:36–37 (AMP) *Jesus answered, My kingdom (kingship, royal power) belongs not to this world. If My kingdom were of this world, my followers would have been fighting to keep Me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, My kingdom is not from here (this world); [it has no such origin or source]. 37 Pilate said to Him, Then You are a King? Jesus answered, You say it! [You speak correctly!] For I am a King. [Certainly I am a*

King!] *This is why I was born,* and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the Truth. Everyone who is of the Truth [who is a friend of the Truth, who belongs to the Truth] hears and listens to My voice.

- When the Roman governor Pilate asked Jesus if He was a king, He decisively answered and said: I am a King!
- At His crucifixion, they put an inscription over His head saying: “*THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS*”

Matthew 27:37 (NKJV) *And they put up over His head the accusation written against Him: THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS*

4. There are two spiritual kingdoms

Colossians 1:13–14 (NLT) *For he (God) has rescued us from the kingdom of darkness and transferred us into the Kingdom of his dear Son, 14 who purchased our freedom and forgave our sins.*

- Notice how the Bible speaks here of two spiritual kingdoms:
 - The kingdom of darkness
 - The Kingdom of God’s dear Son
- The kingdom of darkness is ruled by satan
- The Kingdom of God’s dear Son is ruled by King Jesus
- Every human being is born in the kingdom of darkness
- Entrance into the Kingdom of Jesus Christ is not random or automatic
- Jesus said: You must be born again

John 3:3,7 (NKJV) *Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**” ... 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’*

Salvation Prayer:

Heavenly Father, I thank You that You sent Your Son Jesus Christ into the world to save me. I recognise that I have broken Your commandments, and that I cannot save myself by my own good deeds. Lord Jesus, I thank You that You have taken the punishment for my sins by dying on the cross. I make a decision now to surrender my whole life to You and everything that I have. I receive You as my personal Lord and Saviour. I thank You that I am now forgiven, and that I am now born again. Please lead me and guide me and show me Your plan and purpose for my life. Help me to be strong so that I can live according to Your purpose and Your plan for my life. I pray this in Jesus’ Name, amen.