

# Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

**SHE BROUGHT FORTH HER FIRSTBORN SON, AND WRAPPED HIM  
IN SWADDLING CLOTHES AND LAID HIM IN A MANGER**

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 19, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **LUKE 2:1-7**

**Luke 2:3-7**, And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. **4**: And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) **5**: To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. **6**: And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. **7**: And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

## 1. BACKGROUND

Please refer to the December 19, 2021 Evening message for the Background.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- a. I am going to use the Introduction to set forth a series of Biblical truths contained in the Preserved Word of God.
- b. It is very apparent the average believer is not familiar with these precious truths emphatically taught in God's Word.
- c. In addition, we will touch on Bethlehem and provide some vital information that we need to know with respect to this city, where Jesus was born.
- d. **The First truth** you need to know is **Jesus Christ is God**. He is not Michael. **John 1:1-3**, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2: The same was in the beginning with God. 3: All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In the **Book of Psalms**, God the Father emphatically declares the Lord Jesus Christ is God. **Psalms 45:6**, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: the sceptre of thy kingdom is a right sceptre.
- e. He is the Saviour of the world and to the Jews, He is their Messiah. **John 1:14**, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. Salvation is in a person and Jesus Christ is the author of eternal salvation. **Hebrews 5:9**, And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; John 1:29, The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. Acts 4:12, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
- f. **The second truth** - He is the second person of the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. **John 1:1**, In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 1 John 5:7, For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.
- g. **The third precious truth** - He has always existed; He certainly is not a created being. **John 1:2-4**, The same was in the beginning with God. 3: All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4: In him was life; and the life was the light of men. Revelation 1:8, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty. Revelation 1:18, I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.
- h. **The fourth truth** - He is the Father of all creation. **Genesis 1:26**, And God said, Let us make man in our

image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. **John 1:3-5**, All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4: In him was life; and the life was the light of men. 5: And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

- i. **The fifth truth** - The world did not come into existence by any foolish notion such as the big bang theory. The world was a direct creation by God. Genesis 1:1, In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
- j. **The sixth truth** - Man was also a direct creation by God as He took dust from the ground and formed it and breathed into it the breath of life and man became a living soul. Genesis 2:7, And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. Genesis 5:2, Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created. 1 Corinthians 15:22, For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
- k. **The seventh truth** - After Jesus created Adam and Eve, He told Adam they were free to eat of every tree of the garden but one. **Genesis 2:16-17**, And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Verse 17 speaks of the soul of man and not the flesh of man.
- l. **The eighth truth** - Satan lied to Eve and tempted her and she did partake of the tree which God had forbidden. **Genesis 3:4-5**, And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. Ezekiel 18:4, Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die.
- m. **The ninth truth** - Eve also caused Adam to partake. Of course, Adam knew better; He willfully disobeyed God. **Genesis 3:6**, And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.
- n. **The tenth truth** - When they partook of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, the innocent period was over. Remember Adam was not created righteous; he was created innocent, not knowing the difference between good and evil. Now their eyes are opened, and they are in the state of consciousness. Genesis 3:7-8, And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. 8: And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. Acts 17:30, And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Adam's disobedience plunges the entire human race into sin. Romans 5:19, For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.
- o. **The eleventh truth** - As a result of all this, God had to send a Saviour into the world. No one met the qualifications other than the Lord Jesus Christ. **Acts 3:23**, And it shall come to pass, that every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people. 1 Timothy 3:16, And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. Galatians 4:4, But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 2 Corinthians 5:21, For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. 1 John 3:5, And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. Revelations 5:4-5, And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon. 5: And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof
- p. **The twelfth truth** - Christ's birth had been prophesied for thousands of years. Micah talks about it, Isaiah also reflects on it. **Micah 5:2**, But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel: whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Isaiah 19:20, And it shall be for a sign and for a witness unto the LORD of hosts in the land of Egypt: for they shall cry unto the LORD because of the oppressors, and he shall send them a saviour, and a great one, and he shall deliver them.

- q. **The thirteenth truth** - The first prophesy of the Saviour is found in **Genesis 3:15**, *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*
- r. **The fourteenth truth** - Other prophesies of Jesus are found in **Luke 2:8**, *And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.* The shepherds were the first to hear as they were watching their flock. **Luke 2:15**, *And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.*
- s. **The fifteenth truth** - These shepherds were just ordinary people. It is amazing that Jesus came to save the rich and the poor, the down and out, the outcast, men, women and children: salvation is offered to all. **Revelation 22:17**, *And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.*
- t. **The sixteenth truth** - He said to the shepherds: **Luke 2:11**, *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*
- u. **The seventeenth truth** - He did not say He was a King, mighty warrior, or a great statesman. Although Jesus met those requirements; the angel said a Saviour. The wise men were not with the shepherds at the stable; they came later and went to the house. **Worthy to note:** they worshiped Jesus and not Mary. **Matthew 2:11**, *And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.*
- v. **The eighteenth truth** - The shepherds had the same problem that you and I have, they needed a Saviour. Even the virgin Mary, the mother of Jesus, acknowledges that she needed a Saviour. **Luke 1:46-47**, *And Mary said, My soul doth magnify the Lord, 47: And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.*
- w. **The nineteenth truth** - When man disobeyed God, all of us now come into the world as sinners. **Psalms 51:5**, *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.* We need a Saviour to cover our sin. **John 3:16**, *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* **2 Corinthians 5:21**, *For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.* The child that was born in a stable in Bethlehem provided every single thing God needed in order to save mankind. What God required; God had to provide. **Luke 2:11**, *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.* **John 1:29**, *The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.* **John 1:36**, *And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!*
- x. **The twentieth truth** - In order to have salvation God's way we must follow the simple plan God has devised. The following seven steps will be helpful in embracing that plan. **Romans 3:22**, *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*
1. To go to Heaven, we must be born again. **John 3:7**, *Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.* Believing God's promises from the heart gives one a born-again experience.
  2. We must realize that we are sinners. **Romans 3:23**, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
  3. Since we are sinners, we are condemned to death; eternal separation from God. **Romans 6:23**, *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.* **Hebrews 9:27**, *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:* **John 3:18**, *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*
  4. God loves the world, so He sent His only begotten Son, He sent Jesus to die for us while we were yet sinners. **John 3:16**, *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* **Romans 5:8**, *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*
  5. God commands all to accept the Saviour and believe that He is the solution to the sin problem. **Acts 17:30**, *And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:* **John 1:12**, *But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:* **Philippians 2:10**, *That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;* **John 3:36**, *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that*

*believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. 1 John 5:12, He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.*

6. He calls us to salvation as the Holy Spirit draws us to the Living Christ. **John 6:44**, No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day. **Acts 16:31**, *And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.* **Romans 10:13**, *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*
7. After we are called to salvation, we are called to be baptized and to serve. Although, water baptism is the first act of obedience it does not save. The baptism of the Holy Spirit places the believer "in" Christ. **Matthew 28:19**, *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 1 Corinthians 12:13*, *For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.* **Psalms 100:2-3**, *Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. 3: Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*
8. To sum it all up with respect to the shepherd. **John 10:11**, *I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.* **Hebrews 13:20**, *Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 1 Peter 5:4*, *And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.*
- y. Let's reflect on Bethlehem; the birthplace of the Saviour, and see what we can learn.
  1. Bethlehem is one of the oldest towns in the Old Testament.
  2. It is so old that at one time it was referred to as Bethlehem Ephratah.
  3. The name Bethlehem means "The House of Bread."
  4. This sacred city has deep historical significance in the Bible.
  5. It was the burial place of Rachel, the wife of Jacob.
  6. It was the home setting in the **Book of Ruth**. It was the place where Naomi lived and where Ruth and Boaz met and married.
  7. No doubt one of the most famous Old Testament kings was born and raised there, Israel's greatest king; King David a man after God's own heart. It is sometimes referred to as the city of David. **1 Samuel 13:14**, *But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the LORD hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the LORD hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the LORD commanded thee.*
  8. It is about five miles south of Jerusalem. In 2016 the total population registered about 882,652. This breaks down to 64% Jews, 35% Muslims and 1% Christians. The climate is very distinct; like the southern part of the United States; warm and cold weather.
  9. Bethlehem is under Palestinian authority at this time.
  10. It is where the announcement was made of the birth of Christ. **Matthew 2:1**, Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem.
  11. Mary and Joseph journeyed there to pay taxes and enroll for the census. A wicked king ordered them there and this carried out the plan of God. *there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed*
  12. This land of Palestine is referred to many times as the Holy Land.
  13. This is where God chose for His people to be. **2 Chronicles 6:5-6**, *Since the day that I brought forth my people out of the land of Egypt I chose no city among all the tribes of Israel to build an house in, that my name might be there; neither chose I any man to be a ruler over my people Israel: 6: But I have chosen Jerusalem, that my name might be there; and have chosen David to be over my people Israel.* The land of Israel is in the center of the world; if you took all the land masses of the earth and put them together, they would fit like a puzzle, Israel would be right in the middle.
  14. This is not a coincidence because God intended for the Word of God to go to every land. It is the finger of God that does the work. **Matthew 24:14**, *And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.*
  15. **1 Samuel 16:1**, And the LORD said unto Samuel, How long wilt thou mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? fill thine horn with oil, and go, I will send thee to Jesse the Bethlehemite: for I have provided me a king among his sons. God promised David that through his reign there would be no end. **Isaiah 9:7**, Of the increase of his government and



[peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.](#)

16. The Lord Jesus Christ will sit on the throne of David to rule and reign initially for a thousand years. **Luke 1:33**, [And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Revelation 20:6, Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.](#)
  17. Bethlehem was where Jacob had a relationship with God. Jacob lost his wife Rachel in childbirth, and she was buried in Bethlehem.
  18. Rachel delivered her last son to Jacob. It is no irony that God would choose Bethlehem as a special place.
  19. The night the angel brought forth the news of the Saviour, **Galatians 4:4**, [But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,](#) was not a silent night it was a night filled with Joy.
  20. In **Genesis 1:14**, [And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:](#) The wise men were able to see the star in the east. **Matthew 2:2**, [Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.](#)
  21. As we look at this from God's perspective, it is very exciting to know that David had served as a shepherd. **Psalms 23:1**, [The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.](#)
  22. The Saviour was first prophesied to the shepherds, so it is proper that the angels came to the shepherds. Not only were the shepherds told what was happening, but the whole world needed to know the Saviour came to save. **1 John 4:14**, [And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.](#)
  23. Micah prophesied that He would be born in Bethlehem as mentioned earlier. In Isaiah we are told He would be born to a virgin. **Isaiah 7:14**, [Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.](#) Matthew enlightens us to the miraculous conception. **Matthew 1:18**, [Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.](#)
  24. There were many other prophesies that were literally fulfilled by the Lord Jesus Christ.
- z. Let's see what we can glean from God's precious and Preserved Word as we look at **Luke chapter 2**.

### 3. TWO POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

#### a. And it came to pass in those days.

1. **Luke 2:1-2**, [And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. 2: \(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.\)](#)
2. God's plan unfolds through Caesar Augustus. He was the adopted son of Julius Caesar.
3. He was a dictator, but he fulfilled God requirement and God's plan.
4. As a result of the taxation of the entire world, he had money to raise his army and to control his vast empire and to live in luxury.
5. He required all citizens to come and give an account.
6. Mary, being heavy with child would have to travel to be taxed and be enrolled in the census.
7. Notice it says [this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.](#)

#### b. She brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger;

1. **Luke 2:3-7**, [And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. 4: And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; \(because he was of the house and lineage of David:\) 5: To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. 6: And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. 7: And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.](#)
2. During the taxation period Bethlehem's facilities were occupied.

3. Joseph and Mary came out of Nazareth into Galilee and went into Judea to Bethlehem; the city of David.
4. This is because David was a great king who was born and raised there.
5. Why did Mary have to go to Bethlehem? Because she was also of the house and lineage of David like her husband Joseph.
6. Caesar Augusta attempted to make himself a god, however; he fell right into God's plan as to where Jesus would be born.
7. Notice He was born in a stable. **And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger;**
8. Micah had prophesied as to where He would be born. **Micah 5:2, But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.**
9. **Everything** that happened had been **pre-arranged by God.**
10. He chose to bring the Lord Jesus into that part of the world.
11. Right down to every detail was fulfilled through Jesus Christ.
12. Mary puts Him in **swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger;**
13. Jesus was the perfect Son of God. He was God in the flesh. **1 Timothy 3:16, And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory. John 1:14, And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. Matthew 3:17, And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.**
14. He was God in the manger, He was God on the cross, He was God in His resurrection, He is God as He sits at the right hand of the Father making intercessions for us and He will be God at His second coming. **Hebrews 1:8, But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom.**

#### 4. CONCLUSION

- a. My friend what have you done with the Gospel?
- b. Have you come to know Jesus on a personal basis?
- c. It has nothing to do with doing the best we can. It is not about our own righteousness or keeping the Ten Commandment, the Golden Rule or the Sermon on the Mount. It is not about how good we think we are. It is not about our works. **Ephesians 2:8-9, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9: Not of works, lest any man should boast.**
- d. It is about the blood of the Saviour. Are your sins covered by His blood? **Hebrews 9:22, And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.**
- e. If your sins are not covered by His blood, you need to realize you remain a sinner and are destined for hell and eternal punishment.
- f. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- g. You need to realize that you need a Saviour.
- h. **Romans 6:23, For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**
- i. You have to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.
- j. **John 1:12, But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**
- k. **When we acknowledge Jesus as Saviour and accept Him as our Lord, then we can understand it is the soul that gets converted and not the flesh. Hebrews 10:39, But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.**
- l. **God saves the soul and saves it for all eternally.**
- m. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- n. Would you please stand?

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