

# A Savior Is Born! (Pt. 2)

*Luke 2:1-20*

- I. The Record of the Birth of Jesus Christ (1-7)
  - A. Born at the Right Time (1-3)

# When was Jesus born?

- What year?
  - During the reign of Caesar Augustus (27 BC to 14 AD), in conjunction with the census ordered in 8 BC and carried out about 5 BC
  - While Quirinius was governor of Syria (uncertain)
  - Before the death of Herod the Great (between March 29 and April 4, 4 BC)

# When was Jesus born?

- What time of year?
  - Based on the priests' rotation and Zacharias' service at the temple, around the time of the winter solstice.
- Conclusion: Jesus was likely born in winter, probably either December of 5 or 6 BC.
- What day? Uncertain, however...
  - Hippolytus of Rome (c. 165-235 AD), writing between 202-211 BC in his commentary on Daniel, *Dan. IV, 23*): “the first advent of our Lord in the flesh, when he was born in Bethlehem, was December 25<sup>th</sup>.”

# A Savior Is Born! (Pt. 2)

*Luke 2:1-20*

## I. The Record of the Birth of Jesus Christ (1-7)

A. Born at the Right Time (1-3)

B. Born to the Right Family (4a, 5a)

C. Born in the Right City (4)

D. Born in the Right Circumstances (5b-7)

# Why such humble circumstances?

1. The fact that there was no room for Jesus is a profound picture of the essence of human sin.
2. The fact that Jesus was born in a stable with absolutely no pageantry and slept his first night in this world in a feed trough is a profound picture of His amazing condescension!
3. The circumstances of his birth are also a picture of His unique nature.
4. Ultimately, the human birth of God's eternal Son is an everlasting portrait of God's love for the world – and for you!