

Unpacking the Book

Lesson #19: Life of Christ (A)

I. Introduction

A. New Testament Books (27)

| AUTHOR | BOOK | AUTHOR | BOOK |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Matthew | Matthew | Paul | Romans |
| Mark | Mark | | 1, 2 Corinthians |
| Luke | Luke | | Galatians |
| | Acts | | Ephesians |
| | | | Philipians |
| | | Colossians | |
| | | 1, 2 Thessalonians | |
| | | 1, 2 Timothy | |
| | | Titus | |
| | | Philemon | |
| John | John 1, 2, 3 John Revelation | ? | Hebrews |
| Jude | Jude | Peter | 1, 2 Peter |

1. The NT books were not written in the order in which they appear in the bible.
2. There are 4 gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
3. There is 1 history book: Acts
4. There are 21 letters (14 written by Paul)
5. There is 1 book of prophecy: Revelation

B. Prophecies regarding the birth of Christ

1. Promised through the seed of Abraham:
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Genesis 22:18
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Matthew 1:1
2. Promised through Isaac:
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Genesis 21:12
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Luke 3:34
3. Out of the tribe of Judah
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Micah 5:2

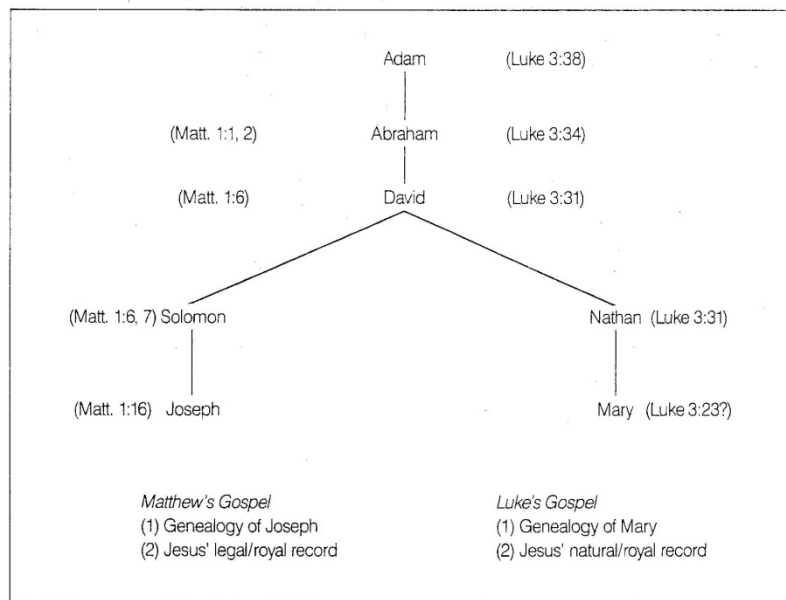
- b. New Testament Fulfillment: Luke 3:33
- 4. Born in the family of Jesse
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Isaiah 11:1
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Luke 3:32
- 5. Born in Bethlehem
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Micah 5:2
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Luke 2:4-7
- 6. Born of a virgin
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Isaiah 7:14
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Matthew 1:18
- 7. Weeping for the children
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Jeremiah 31:15
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Matthew 2:16
- 8. Flight to Egypt
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Hosea 11:1
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Matthew 2:13-14
- 9. He will be called Lord
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Psalm 110:1
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Luke 2:11
- 10. He is the Son of God
 - a. Old Testament Prophecy: Psalm 2:7
 - b. New Testament Fulfillment: Luke 3:22 (Matthew 3:17, Mark 1:11)
- C. Genealogies

Lineage was very important to the Jewish male. Among other things it allowed access to temple worship. Both the genealogies (Matthew 1 and Luke 3) gave the genealogy of Jesus. (Matthew gives Joseph's lineage – Luke gives Mary's lineage).

- 1. Matthew
 - a. Traces from Abraham down to Jesus
 - b. Written for a Jewish mind
 - c. Shows the Kingly line through Solomon
 - d. It is a throne succession!
 - e. Names are listed symmetrically and some names are omitted
 - f. The fourteen generations (vs. 17) suggests a mnemonic device for memorization purposes
 - g. This is the legal line! The one who brings blessings to all nations. (Gen. 12:3)
- 2. Luke

- a. Moves from Jesus back to Adam
- b. Stresses the identification of Jesus with the entire human race
- c. Jesus is the Son of Adam, He is one of us!
- d. Actual line of descent (with a Levirate marriage at one or more points in the line – Example: Joseph son of Heli in Luke and son of Jacob in Matthew. Heli and Jacob were likely half brothers. Perhaps Heli died and Jacob married his widow).

Genealogy of Jesus



Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts © 1993 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.

II. Overall time line

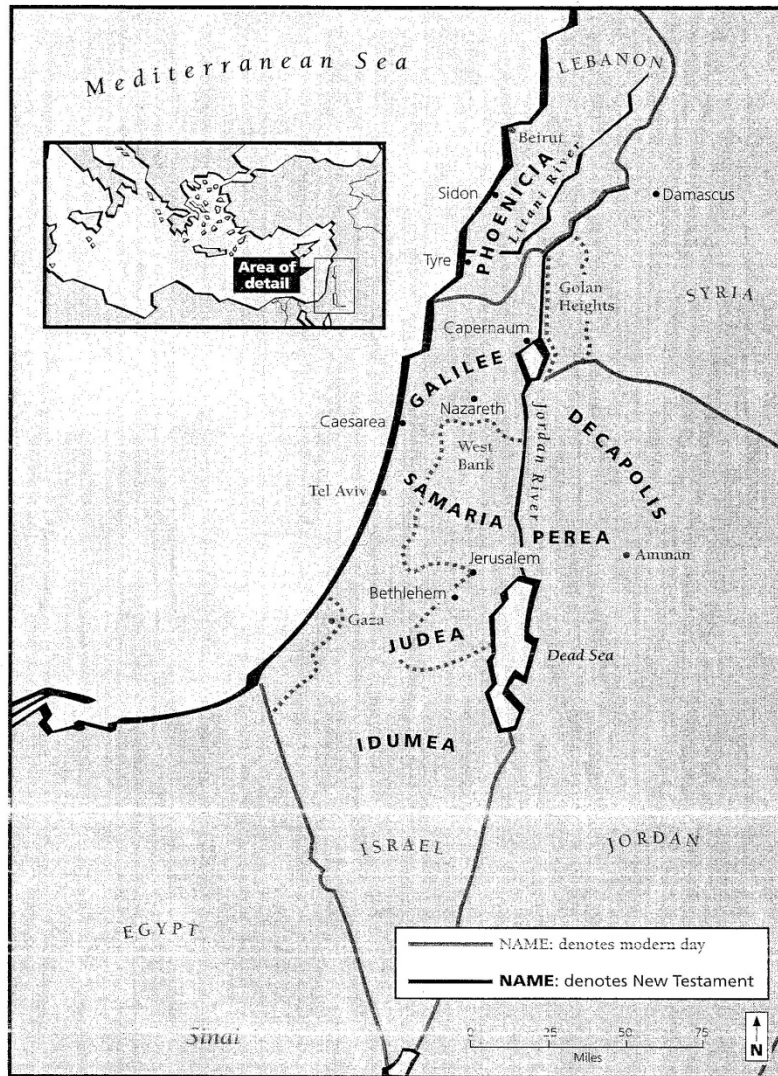
- A. Birth – 30 years of age
- B. Spring 26 AD – Spring 27 AD Year of “Inauguration”/Obscurity
- C. Summer of 27 AD – Fall 28 AD Year of “Popularity”
- D. Winter 28 – Winter 29 AD Year of “Opposition” /Rejection

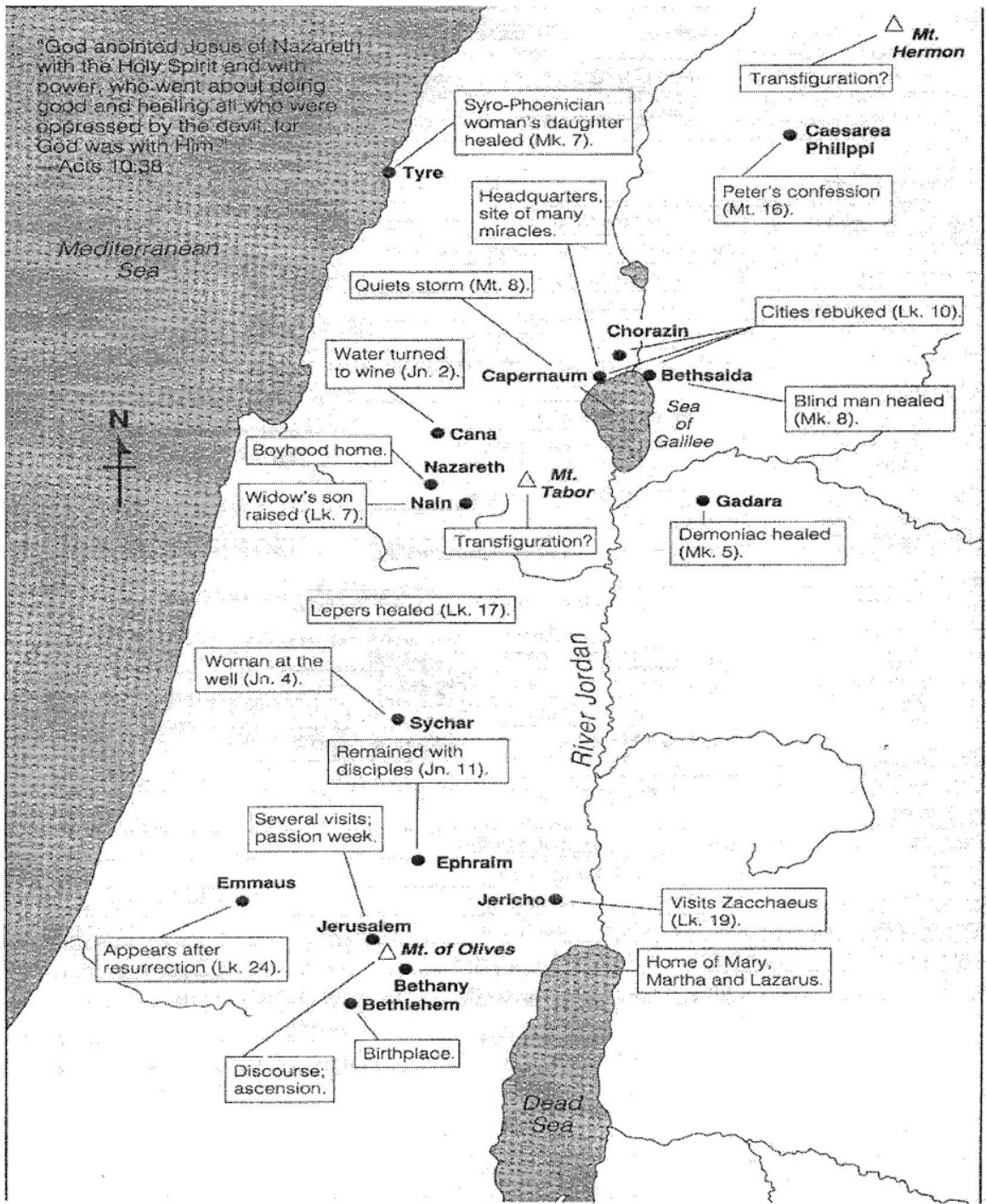
III. Birth of Christ – Approximately 30 years of age

- A. Geographical notations
 - 1. Born: Bethlehem
 - 2. Childhood: Nazareth

3. Adult “home”: Capernaum
4. Adult ministry: Jerusalem

The Land of the Gospels





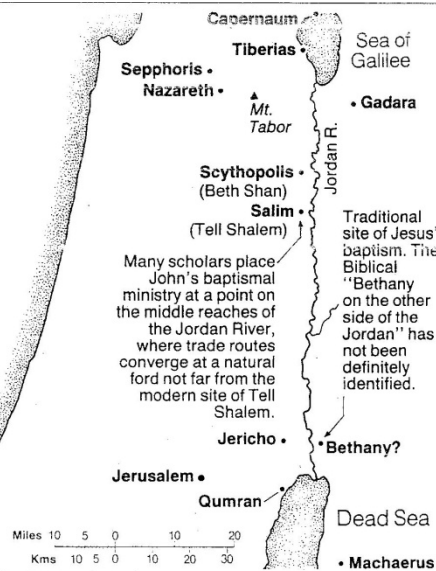
(Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts)

- B. Date of His Birth: 4-6 BC
- C. Circumstances of His Childhood:
 - 1. Visit to Jerusalem (Luke 2:40-50)
 - 2. "Silent years" (Luke 2:51-52)
- D. Early adulthood
 - 1. His baptism (Ministry of John the Baptist) (Matthew 3:1-12, Mark 1:1-8, Luke 3:1-20, John 1:19-37)

Jesus' Baptism and Temptation

Events surrounding Jesus' baptism reveal the intense religious excitement and social ferment of the early days of John the Baptist's ministry. Herod had been rapacious and extravagant; Roman military occupation was harsh. Some agitation centered around the change of procurators from Gratus to Pilate in A.D. 26. Most of the people hoped for a religious solution to their low political fortunes, and when they heard of a new prophet, they flocked out into the desert to hear him. The religious sect (Essenes) from Qumran professed similar doctrines of repentance and baptism. Jesus was baptized at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan (see Jn 1:28). John also baptized at "Aenon near Salim" (Jn 3:23).

The temptation took place in (1) the desert region of the lower Jordan Valley, (2) a high mountain (possibly one of the abrupt cliffs near Jericho that present an unsurpassed panorama) and (3) the pinnacle of the temple, from which the priests sounded the trumpet to call the city's attention to important events.



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- 2. His temptation (John 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13)
- 3. His first "public" event: the wedding at Cana (John 2:1-12)

IV. So What?

Consider the key phrases of Luke 2:51-52...are you "growing", "becoming strong", "being filled with wisdom"?