BA BETA KRISTIYAN
HAILE SELASSIE I
THE CHURCH OF HAILE
SELASSIE
I

Sunday Class September 2nd, 2018

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Agenda: Discussing the Controversy Surrounding the Birthplace of Joshua the Christ (Jesus The Christ) through Rastalogy.

The purpose of this class is to discuss the contradiction behind the location of the birth of Joshua The Christ (Jesus the Christ) and the significance behind his birth place. This is important because the gospels St. Matthew and St. Luke both give an account of the birth place of Joshua the Christ but each account differs, thus allowing confusion to arise for the reader. The purpose of this class is to analyze each account and to otherwise shed light and understanding upon the contradiction by looking at the differences and similarities between both St. Matthew and St. Luke.

St. Matthew 2:1

> Now when Je'sus was born in Bethelem of Ju-dae'a in the days of Her'od the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jeru'sa-lem.

Behold: calling one's attention to see or observe something (a thing or person, especially a remarkable or impressive one).

Places

Bethelem of Ju-dae'a

East

Jerusalem

People

Je'sus (Joshua the Christ)

He'rod the King

Wise men

According to St. Matthew 2:1, Jesus (Joshua) was born in Bethelem which is a city in Judaea. In the time surrounding his birth, Judaea was ruled by King He'rod. He was a roman appointed by Julius Caesar to rule over the province of Judaea. Three wise men came from the east to Jeru-sa-lem. Jerusalem was originally a city in Benjamin but as the times changed, it became a city in the province of Ju-dae'a near Bethany, close to the dead sea.

Who are the Wise men and where are they from?

Through Christianity we learn that there are Three Wise Men but for intents and purposes of deciphering St. Matthew, we will refer to them as Wise men because a specific amount of men was not given, however we know that it is more than one wise man because MEN is plural signifying that we are dealing with more than one person.

Genesis 10:30

And their dwelling was from Me'sha, as thou goest unto Se'phar a mount of the east.

1 Kings 4:30

And Sol'o-mon's wisdom excelled the wisdom of all the children of the east country, and all the wisdom of E'gypt.

According to Gen. 10:30 and 1 Kings 4:30, the Wise men came from a place that is not too far from Egypt. The Wise men were seeking the location of the birth of Jesus the Christ from King Herod. However, they referred to Jesus The Christ as "King of the Jews." The Jews are the children of Israel, whom Herod was currently ruling over.

(Look at the map given of Africa and the Middle East in order to pinpoint locations we are referring to.)

The birth of Jesus the Christ (Joshua) comes as a threat to King Herod because he is ruling over the people of Israel (the Jews). Herod then called all the priests and scribes to find out where this child may have been born according to the prophecy. The priests and scribes told Herod that the child was born in Bethelem and King Herod then asked the wise men what time did the star that signified the birth of Joshua the Christ appear. King Herod told the Wise men to come back to him when they find the child so that he may go and worship him also but that was not Herod's intentions. After the Wise men find Joshua the Christ and his parents in Bethelem, they give him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, and worshipped him. Then, the Wise men departed back to their countries using a different route.

Who is Herod?

Herod (37 B.C-4 B.C) was a Roman appointed King of Ju-daea by Ceasar. He was a cruel ruler because after the birth of the Christ child (Joshua), he killed all of the children in Bethelem who were two years and younger. He did this because he was threatened by the idea that a child was born to be the rightful King over the land of Israel. Joseph the father of Joshua the Christ (Jesus) received a message from the Lord saying to depart into Egypt because Herod sought to destroy the child. Joseph, Mary and Joshua (Jesus) the Christ, did not return to Ju-daea until after the death of Herod in 4 B.C, but they settled in Nazareth which is a city in Galilee despite being told by the Lord to return to Israel. Joseph did not want to return to Judaea because Herod's son

Archaelus took over after his father's death (St Matthew 2: 22). Everything was done according to a prophecy. It was prophesized that Joshua the Christ go to Egypt then return and go to Nazareth.

Why did Mary and Joseph go to Bethelem?

St. Luke 2:1-7

(A semicolon; - used to indicate that something will be further explained.)

> And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cae'sar Au-gus'tus , that all the world should be taxed.
>
> (And this taxing was first made when Cy-re'ni-us was governor of Syr'i-a.)
>
> And all went to be taxed, very one into his own city.
>
> And Jo'seph also went up from Gal'i-lee, out of the city of Naz'a-reth, into Ju-dae'a, unto the city of Da'vid which is called Beth'le-hem; (because he was of the house and lineage of Da'vid:).
>
> To be taxed with Ma'ry his espoused wife, being great with child.
>
> And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
>
> 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.
>
> And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

St. Luke 2:1-7 gives us an account of why Joseph and Mary travelled to Bethlehem. They were originally living in Nazareth in Galilee but because Joseph was of the house and lineage of David, he had to return to Bethlehem to pay taxes unto Caesar. St. Luke 2:4 also shows us that Bethlehem means the City of David. They travelled back to Bethlehem while Mary was in her last months of pregnancy and she ended up giving birth in a manger in Bethlehem. St. Luke 2:8 identifies shepherd that were watching over their flocks and they were all from the same place.

Shepherd: a person who rears and tends sheep. Guide or direct in a particular direction.

St. Luke refers to the Wise men in St. Matthew as shepherds. It is important to note that each gospel was written by a different person. Each author of the gospels shares a different account and point of view of what occurred throughout the life and teachings of Joshua the Christ. Ultimately it is up for the author to write the words but the reader to decipher the meaning.

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