



12/24 and 25/2016

Scene 7

Luke 2:1 Now it came about in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.

² This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

³ And all were proceeding to register for the census, everyone to his own city.

⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,

⁵ in order to register, along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

⁶ And it came about that while they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth.

⁷ And she gave birth to her first-born son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Scene 8

⁸ And in the same region there were *some* shepherds staying out in the fields, and keeping watch over their flock by night.

⁹ And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened.

¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people;

¹¹ for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

¹² "And this *will be* a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger."

¹³ And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

¹⁵ And it came about when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds *began* saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

Scene 9

¹⁶ And they came in haste and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger.

¹⁷ And when they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child.

¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds.

¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

²⁰ And the shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them.

Scene 10

²¹ And when eight days were completed before His circumcision, His name was *then* called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.

Scene 11

²² And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord

²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every *first-born* male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"),

²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons."

²⁵ And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law,

²⁸ then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said,

²⁹ "Now Lord, Thou dost let Thy bond-servant depart In peace, according to Thy word;

³⁰ For my eyes have seen Thy salvation,

³¹ Which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² A light of revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Thy people Israel."

³³ And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him.

³⁴ And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this *Child* is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed--

³⁵ and a sword will pierce even your own soul-- to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

³⁶ And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with a husband seven years after her marriage,

³⁷ and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. And she never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers.

³⁸ And at that very moment she came up and *began* giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹ And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.

Scene 12

Matthew 2:1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,

² "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east, and have come to worship Him."

³ And when Herod the king heard it, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴ And gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he *began* to inquire of them where the Christ was to be born.

⁵ And they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet,

⁶ 'And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, Are by no means least among the leaders of Judah; For out of you shall come forth a Ruler, Who will shepherd My people Israel.'"

⁷ Then Herod secretly called the magi, and ascertained from them the time the star appeared.

⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, "Go and make careful search for the Child; and when you have found *Him*, report to me, that I too may come and worship Him."

⁹ And having heard the king, they went their way; and lo, the star, which they had seen in the east, went on before them, until it came and stood over where the Child was.

¹⁰ And when they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

Scene 13

¹¹ And they came into the house and saw the Child with Mary His mother; and they fell down and worshiped Him; and opening their treasures they presented to Him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

¹² And having been warned *by God* in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their own country by another way.

Scene 14

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise and take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him."

¹⁴ And he arose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed for Egypt;

¹⁵ and was there until the death of Herod, that what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, "Out of Egypt did I call My Son."

Scene 15

¹⁶ Then when Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he became very enraged, and sent and slew all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its environs, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the magi.

¹⁷ Then that which was spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled, saying,

¹⁸ "A voice was heard in Ramah, Weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children; And she refused to be comforted, Because they were no more."

Scene 16

¹⁹ But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying,

²⁰ "Arise and take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for those who sought the Child's life are dead."

²¹ And he arose and took the Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel.

²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned *by God* in a dream, he departed for the regions of Galilee,

²³ and came and resided in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."