

A New or Different Ending
Writing Assignment for Prairie Writers, December 17th, 2011

A different or new ending to the story of Joseph and Mary

By studying the intricate connections to policies of the leadership, we can discover the methods and purpose to the events that are written in the ancient texts.

Matthew:

2:1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king,

2:19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,

2: 22 But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee:

2: 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

3: 1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea,

Josephus 18:1:1 Cyrenius was a Roman Senator

Luke:

2: 1 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: 2 (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

2: 3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

2: 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: 21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

2: 22 And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord;

Simeon blessed and prophesied.

2: 25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

33 And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.

34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

35 (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.

Anna's Prophecy.

2: 36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity;

37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

2: 39 And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth.

2: 41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.

2: 42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.

2: 51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.

From the books of Josephus

Antiquities of the Jews - Book XVIII Chapter 1:1

Cyrenius, a Roman senator, of great dignity came into Syria, sent by Caesar to be a judge of that nation, and take account of their substance.

Coponius, a man of the equestrian order, was sent with him, to have the supreme power over the Jews.

Cyrenius came into Judea, which was added to the province of Syria, to take account of their substance, and to dispose of Archelaus's money;

but the Jews, although at the beginning they took the report of a taxation heinously, yet did they leave off any further opposition to it, by the persuasion of Joazar, who was the son of Beethus, and high priest;

so they, being over-persuaded by Joazar's words, gave an account of their estates, without any dispute about it.

Yet was there one Judas, a Gaulonite, of a city whose name was Gamala, who, taking with him Sadduc, a Pharisee, became zealous to draw them to a revolt, who both said that this taxation was no better than an introduction to slavery,

Antiquities of the Jews - Book XVIII Chapter 2:2

As Coponius, was exercising his office of procurator, and governing Judea, as the Jews were celebrating the feast of unleavened bread, which we call the Passover.

Procurators (Enforcement Army Officers) of Judea;

Coponius

Marcus Ambivius

Annus Rufus

Valerius Gratus (11 years)

Pontius Pilot.

King appointed High Priests;

Joazar, son of Beethus

Procurator appointed High Priests

Ananus; removed by Gratus

Ismael son of Phabi; appointed by Gratus for a little time

Eleazar son of Ananus; one year

Simon son of Camithus; one year

Joseph Caiaphas; last appointment by Valerius Gratus

Then Pontius Pilot succeeded Gratus