









### Luke 2:1-7

### The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while[a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to their own town to register.





4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child



6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.



### Two Big Topics

### Timing Appearances



# **Timing Is Everything**

### Romance, Sports, Comedy, Investing....History



# 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born.



6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born.

4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. Galatians 4:4-6 (NIV)



Christmas is about God's timing in the history or the world and in our lives. God gets involved in the circumstances and decisions of our lives.



Timing defined as.... The ability to choose the best moment for some action, movement. The ability to select the precise moment for doing something of optimum effect.



### At the time of Jesus birth.

religion Universal common language – Greek

•

 Pax Romana – political peace in the world Freedom of movement and freedom of

- Communication and travel available



Ephesians 1:9-10 (NIV) 9 he [God] made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ, 10 to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.



Mark 1:15 (NIV) 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"



### How hard is it to see God's timing?

In the present situation our pain and suffering.

### In the present situations – we are hindered by



### How hard is it to see God's timing?

In the present situations – we are hindered by our pressures, pain and suffering. Looking back – we see the results and forget much of the pressures, pain and suffering.



God's Heroes Faced Timing Issues: Joseph, Esther, Nehemiah and Jesus When God had placed them in a special time and place to save His people.



28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28 (NIV)



## What Time

# Your Life?

Is it in



### **Appearances Are Everything**





 Light of the world enters Bethlehem in dark of night. His first home on earth was in the womb of a young woman. His second home was in a crude stable. The Word of God became a speechless infant. The One destined to clothe a heavenly army was wrapped in course strips of cloth.

# **Consider the Humility of God**



### Bread of Life was laid in the feeding trough of an animal.

the stigma of illegitimacy.

(from Surprised by the Voice of God by Jack Deere)

# **Consider the Humility of God**

# God doesn't mind the shame of the stable and



**Description of our Christmas Baby** Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.



And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death even death on a cross! 9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name,



that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.





# NE CHILD changed the world



# Dr. Luke's Travelogue Luke 1 → Acts 28



# Last 2 verses of Acts 28

30 For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. 31 He proclaimed the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ with all boldness and without hindrance!





# NE CHILD changed the world











