

U P K L E U N A M M E Z I
 V W H V L M E T Q Y N O A
 Y Y Z L A Z J V W A N B F
 X C B N N I A O Z O M Q U
 C Q G U A X B A S M L T R
 S E P N Z E R L E E X H J
 R K H N X E L H M O P N E
 A F S U T J E K A K A H S
 R X M H M L Z U R V Y W U
 H H D L H O O L Y O B Y S
 A O S T D H D D R L U S Z
 F Y E P M N I G R I V T K
 F B A N G E L T D W A M R
 M S D R E H P E H S Z J D
 Z Y S H Q A V Q O U W L W

Words to Find:	<i>Bethlehem</i>	<i>Joseph</i>	<i>Shepherds</i>
<i>Angel</i>	<i>Emmanuel</i>	<i>Manger</i>	<i>Tax</i>
<i>Augustus</i>	<i>Inn</i>	<i>Mary</i>	<i>Virgin</i>
	<i>Jesus</i>	<i>Nazareth</i>	

Jesus' Birth


C. H. Spurgeon

We esteem every day alike, but still, as the season suggests thoughts of Jesus, let us joyfully remember our dear Redeemer's glorious birth. Who but He was ever longed for by such a multitude of hearts? When else did angels indulge in midnight songs, or did God hang a new star in the

sky? To whose cradle did rich and poor make so willing a pilgrimage, and offer such hearty and unsought oblations? Well may earth rejoice; well may all men cease their labor to celebrate "the great birthday" of Jesus. Let gladness rule the hour; let holy song and sweet heart music accompany our soul in the raptures of joy.

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Prophecies about Christ's Birth

Bill Brinkworth

Long before Christ's birth, the Bible described His coming. Here are some of the many prophecies, and the approximate dates they were foretold:

☞ Around 1872 B. C. it was foretold Jesus would be of Abraham's lineage. (Genesis 22:18)

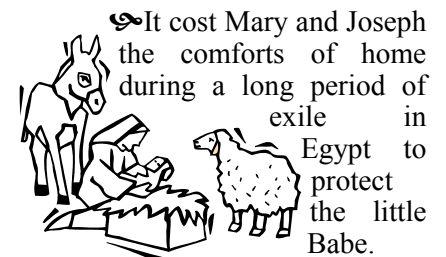
☞ Around 742 B. C. Isaiah said the Child would be born of a virgin. "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." *Isaiah 7:14*

☞ Around 40 B. C. Isaiah foretold that the child would be God in the flesh, amongst His other abilities. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." *Isaiah 9:6* "Prince of peace" was fulfilled in Luke 2:14.

Continued on Page 2

Costly Christmas

Author Unknown



☞ It cost Mary and Joseph the comforts of home during a long period of exile in Egypt to protect the little Babe.

☞ It cost mothers, in and around Bethlehem, the massacre of their babies by the cruel order of Herod (Matthew 2:16).

☞ It cost the shepherds the complacency of their shepherds' life, as they had to drop their watching of sheep to see the Christ child.

☞ It cost the early apostles and the early church persecution and sometimes death.

☞ It cost missionaries for Christ untold suffering to spread the Good News that the promised Messiah had come.

☞ More than all this, it cost God the Father His only Son. He sent Him to Earth to save men from hell.

Continued on Page 2

Costly Christmas

Continued from Page 1

☞ It cost Jesus a life of sacrifice and service. He died a very cruel death.

Is Christmas Too Costly?

☞ It is, if all that it means is gift exchanges.

☞ It is, if all that it means is tinsel.

☞ It is, if all that it means is millions spent on the commercialized Christmas.

☞ It is, if all that it means is a holiday.

It Wasn't Too Costly

☞ If it means the hope of the world.

☞ If it means the forgiveness of sin

☞ If it means peace among men.

Prophecies about Christ's Birth

Continued from Page 1

☞ Around 740 B. C. Hosea said the Child would live in Egypt, and would be called out of it, (Hosea 11:1). This prophecy was fulfilled in Matthew 2:13-14.

☞ Around 713 B. C. it was foretold that the Child would be of



Jesse's family line also (Isaiah 11:1).

☞ Around 590 B. C. it was foretold that He would be a descendant of King David. (Jeremiah 23:5-6)

☞ Around 510 B. C. it was prophesied that the Saviour would be born in Bethlehem, and of the tribe of Judah. "But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2 The prophecy was fulfilled in Luke 2:4-7.

☞ Psalm 2:7 states He would be the Son of God. Luke 3:22 tells of the fulfillment of that prophecy.

The birth of Jesus was not an ordinary birth of just any person. It was a well-planned, special event by God. The birth of Christ ushered in God's promise that a Saviour would come, and

through Him, any could have God's promise of eternal life.

The Borrower

Kenneth McKenzie

*He borrowed a stable in which
to be born;
And later confessed that he
had no bed.*

*He borrowed a basket that bright
spring morn;
Sent the people away, their
hunger fed.*

*He borrowed a boat from which
to preach
His Father's love to sinful men;
They stood that day on
Galilee's beach,
Longing to hear his message
again.*

*He borrowed a donkey, on
which to ride
With royal blessings from
on high;
To hear the proud city his
name deride,
Scornfully bidding him pass by.*

*He borrowed a room in
which to meet
His friends, the sacred feast to
keep of old;
But the towel to dry his
disciples' feet
Was not his; nor the holy table
His to hold.*

*He borrowed a cross on
which to die,
A ransom from sin, a life
laid down.
He borrowed a tomb in which
to lie
Yet the great universe was
his own.*

His and Our Birth

Oswald chambers

*"And the angel answered and
said unto her, The Holy Ghost
shall come upon thee, and the
power of the Highest shall over-
shadow thee: therefore also that
holy thing which shall be born of
thee shall be called the Son of
God." Luke 1:35*

Jesus Christ was born into this world, not from it. He did not evolve out of history. He came into history from the outside. Jesus Christ is not the best human being. He is a being who cannot be accounted for by the human race at all. He is not man becoming God, but God Incarnate; God coming into human flesh, coming into it from outside. His life is the Highest and the holiest entering in at the lowliest door.

*"My little children, of whom I
travail in birth again until Christ
be formed in you," Galatians
4:19*

Just as our Lord came into human history from outside, so He must come into me from the outside. Have I allowed my personal human life to become a "Bethlehem" for the Son of God? I cannot enter into the realm of the Kingdom of God, unless I am born from above by a totally "unnatural" birth.

*"Marvel not that I said unto
thee, Ye must be born again."
John 3:7*

**"Xmas is the season
without the reason!"**

***"Christmas began in the heart of God. It is
complete only when it reaches the heart of
man."* — Religious Telescope**