Luke 2:1-14

Now in those days 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 everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. 4 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 While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. 8 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 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will 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 "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."
Luke wrote those words to Theophilus to carefully and correctly tell him that the things he had been taught as a Christian were true. Let’s see how much information is given in Luke’s account of Jesus’ birth to Theophilus (one who loves God) if we look closely.

Jesus was born to show that God acts at EXACTLY the right time.

Luke 1:9 The angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. 20 "And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time."

One who loves God should know and be certain that ALL that God has planned for them has NOTHING to do with chance or luck or coincidence. Satan tried for thousands of years through corrupting men’s hearts, corrupting mankind’s bloodline & corrupting men’s reasoning to CHANGE what God had said He would do. Not one word God ever spoke was altered. Not one time God ever set was not fulfilled. Not one promise ever failed.

EVERTHING word & intention and promise made by mankind fails continually because they refuse to trust God. We must have a Savior born to mankind that shows without a doubt that God can’t be wrong & man can’t know what is right.

One who loves God will KNOW that the plans made by God are perfect & the plans we make for ourselves FAIL.

Jesus was born to show that men have NO ROOM for God’s plans.

Luke 2:6 While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

This is either BAD planning on God’s part, or He is showing us the Truth about ourselves. This was Joseph’s family town, yet NO ONE could find a place for a kinsman with a woman about to deliver a child. Could it be that it was because she was not his wife and they looked down on them? Or they were too busy with what they had to do? Or they were there to be registered & taxed on the number in their household? SIX months ago, EVERYONE was astonished and talking about John’s birth and his father’s prophecy & Elizabeth, herself who said the Child Mary was carrying was the Lord! What happened in six months? Life in this world takes up all our time & attention and even the most miraculous things God has done to make us see His plans fade & disappear. OUR plans for this life fill our hearts & minds leaving NO ROOM for God’s plan, no matter how much He tries to get our attention. Proverbs 16:9 The mind of man plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps. How many times have our plans forced God to direct our steps toward pain & loneliness & heartache because we left no room for God’s plans of peace & joy?

One who loves God will NEVER insist on their own way, but will find a way to accept God’s plan for their life.

Jesus was born to show that God’s message for us is ONLY Peace & Joy.

Luke 2:10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people...14 "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."

The MESSAGE of this world, including the world’s religions, is that Joy comes from getting what your heart desires & Peace comes from defeating all those who are against what your heart desires. Every nation sees joy as having what they desire & peace as defeating all who are against them obtaining their desires. Same for every race & culture & state & individual. How much Joy can be found in this world/in a religion/in an individual? How long does it last? How much Peace can be found in this world/in a religion/in an individual? How long does it last? WHY does a Message that fails so completely continue to be believed & pursued? Trusting in Luck & Chance & Coincidence keeps everyone continually making their own plans in chasing what they desire no matter the frustration & heartache & loss!

The Message of God, found ONLY in Christ, is that Joy comes from completely putting away your own desires & the desires of others and doing what is Best for all. (Jesus on the cross=the joy before Him) And Peace comes from Loving all those who are against you in doing what is Best for all.

One who loves God will know that:

1. The plans you make for yourself will only interfere with the Joy God has planned for you!
2. Resisting the plans of those against you will only interfere with the Peace God has planned for you!

Jesus did not follow His own will nor did He resist the will of those who came to arrest Him.

A Savior was Born for the whole world to save us from:

1. Our illusion of chance & luck & coincidence that makes false promises leading us only to misery & fear.
2. Our delusion that our plans for ourselves & our plans for others will lead us all to contentment.
3. Our conclusion that our heart’s desires will make us happy & overcoming others will give us peace.

The Savior that was Born was CRUCIFIED because we hold our illusions, our delusions & our conclusions about this Life to be GREATER than the God Who gave us Life.

The Angels sang that God was MOST GLORIFIED when He put Himself in the lowest of circumstances, like a manger in a stable. A Savior was Born in such a way to show us that we are the most glorious to God when we allow ourselves to be put in the lowest of circumstances, despite our own plans, and still show Love to all, even those who scorn & mistreat & ignore us in our humble state and one who loves God will KNOW that, at the right time, according to God’s plan, in spite of all they have endured they will know Peace & Joy & Love overflowing from God’s own hand!

REMEMBER: And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.

Each day, will you make room for God’s plan for your life so you can know Peace and joy? Or will you keep trusting luck & chance & your efforts to supply what you need? What would please Him?