



The Nativity Story

The Movie, 2006 ♦ www.BethlehemLutheranChurchParma.com



1. The Movie Begins with the killing of all the young boys in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16); then it goes back to what is noted as *one year earlier* when Gabriel appeared to Zechariah, the future father of John the Baptizer. However, the actual time had to be longer:
 - a. *John being promised to his conception* = about 1 month.
 - b. John being carried by Elizabeth = 9 months.
 - c. John being six months older than Jesus = 6 months.
 - d. Herod learning of Jesus' birth through the wise men = about 3 months.
 - e. The total months from *John being promised to the babies being killed* = about 19 months.
2. The Birth of John is Told in Advance through an Angel: Luke 1:5-25
3. (Six Months Later) The Birth of Jesus is Told in Advance through an Angel: Luke 1:26-38
4. Mary Visits Elizabeth, and Both are Expecting: Luke 1:39-45
5. Mary, Pregnant with Jesus, Magnifies the Lord (The Magnificat): Luke 1:46-56 (*In the movie Mary is with Elizabeth when John is born, but the Bible indicates that Mary returned home before Elizabeth gave birth.*)
6. John the Baptizer is Born and Named: Luke 1:57-66 (*For more about John and Jesus, see Luke 1:67-80.*)
7. Mary's Dilemma: *She was engaged, virtually married, but forbidden to be with her fiancé in the way that could lead to a family. However, she was pregnant; furthermore, her fiancé was not the father! All probably assumed she had committed adultery, so she could have been stoned to death!* (NIV Leviticus 20:10 "If a man commits adultery with another man's wife-- with the wife of his neighbor-- both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death.")
8. God Sends a Message to Joseph through an Angel: Matthew 1:18-25
9. Jesus, Who Is God in Flesh – God With Us, is Born: Luke 2:1-7 (*There was no room in the inn, so Mary gave birth in a place where animals lived, a place with a manger – an animal feeding trough.*)
10. Shepherds Hear, Angels Praise, and Mary Treasures: Luke 2:8-20
11. The Wise Men Visit, Worship, and Present Their Gifts: Matthew 2:1-12 (*In the movie the wise men arrive on the night Jesus is born; however, according to the Bible, it was probably about three months after Jesus' birth. Furthermore, Jesus was no longer in a place for animals, but in a house when they visited.*)
12. Joseph, Mary, and Jesus Quickly Flee to Egypt: Matthew 2:13-15
13. In an Attempt to Kill Jesus, the Young Boys in Bethlehem are Murdered: Matthew 2:16-18
14. (Beyond the Movie) Joseph, Mary, and Jesus Return to Nazareth: Matthew 2:19-23; Luke 2:39-40
15. In Conclusion: Our heavenly Father protected *the Word of God who put on flesh* until the time of His passion, when Jesus was betrayed, arrested, tried, beaten, mocked, and crucified! Then, *to open heaven to all believers*, our heavenly Father put all sins (*past, present, future*) on Jesus, His Son, and punished Him in our place. Then, having finished His saving work, Jesus laid down His life for you, for me, for all! Then, *to prove His work to be finished and to give us certainty about our own resurrection*, Jesus rose on the third day! Now, *knowing we are sinners*, let us trust alone, *both now and always*, in Jesus, *who came to save His people from their sins!*