

79 to appear to them who sit in darkness and *in* the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

80 And° the little child grew, and became strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his appearing to Israel.

CHAPTER 2

AND° it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the inhabited earth should be enrolled.⁷

2 This enrollment was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.

3 And all went to be enrolled, every one to his own city.

4 And° Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,

5 to be enrolled with Mary his betrothed wife, being great with child.

6 And° it came to pass, while they were there, that the days were accomplished that she should bring forth;

7 and she brought forth her first-born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling-clothes, and laid Him⁸ in the manger, because there was no place for them in

the inn.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds, abiding in the field, and keeping° watch⁹ over their flock by night.

9 And behold, the angel of the Lord stood by them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they feared with great fear.

10 And the angel said to them, Fear not, for behold, I bring¹⁰ you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people.

11 For to you is born today a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David.

12 And this *shall be* a sign to you: you shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling-clothes, laid in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

14 Glory in the highest to God, and on earth peace, good will¹¹ among men.

15 And it came to pass, that after the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the men, the shepherds, said one to another, Let us now go even to Bethlehem, and see this saying that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.

7. Literally, "written down"

8. Literally, "made Him recline"

9. Literally, "guarding a guard"

10. Literally, "announce to"

11. Literally, "good-pleasure"

16 And they came in haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe laid in the manger.

17 And° when they had seen, they made known abroad the saying which was spoken to them concerning this little Child.

18 And all who heard marveled at those things which were spoken to them by the shepherds.

19 But° Mary kept all these sayings, pondering *them* in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all things which they had heard and seen, as it was spoken to them.

21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the little Child, His name was called Jesus, which was so called by the angel before He was conceived in the womb°.

22 And when the days of her purification were accomplished, according to the Law of Moses, they brought° Him up to Jerusalem, to present *Him* to the Lord,

23 as it is written in the Law of the Lord, that every male opening the womb⁴ shall be called holy to the Lord;

24 and to offer the sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, A pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons.¹²

12. Leviticus 12:8

25 And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name *was* Simeon; and the same man *was* just and circum-spect, waiting for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

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

27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought° in the little Child Jesus, to do for Him after the custom of the law,

28 and he accepted Him up in his arms°, and blessed God, and said,

29 Lord°, now Thou sendest Thy servant away 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 Light for the illumination of the nations, and the Glory of Thy people Israel.

33 And Joseph and His mother marveled at the things which were spoken concerning Him.

34 And Simeon blessed them, and said to 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.