

INTERNATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH (IBC) LINZ

Flötzerweg 156 (Neue Heimat) 4030 Linz

...then you shall know the truth and the truth will set you free Jn.8:32

SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

22.05.16

Theme: The Arrival Of The King: The Significance of the Insignificant.

Memory verse: *First Corinthians chapter one verses twenty-seven and twenty-eight: "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are"*

Texts: Matthew 1: 18-25, Luke 1 26-35.

At the time of Christ's birth, Bethlehem was so insignificant in the world's political history to have attracted such attention as it had after the birth of Christ. Everything about His birth appeared insignificant. The city Bethlehem was insignificant : "But thou Bethlehem Ephrata, 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 birth place was insignificant. "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Yea shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger" (Luke 2:11-12). So poor and insignificant were His earthly parents that they could only afford the minimum requirements for the mother's purification rites (Luke 2:22-24, Leviticus 12: 6-8).

All these seemly insignificant things bear a significant message. However, through the superiority of Christ (Philippians 2:5-7) and the sovereign of God, Christ chose to enter the world in a lowly manger. His lowly beginning contrasts sharply, His eternal exaltation (Philippians 2: 9-11). His choice was to make His appearance not in a big way, but in utter humility as was prophesied of Him! This is an eloquent rebuke to many believers and ministers of God, who takes delight in projecting their rights and positions!!!

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Questions

1. From this study, what do you understand about Bethlehem?
2. Why did God choose to let Jesus Christ to be born in Bethlehem?
3. Why was the birth place of Jesus Christ in a manger?
4. What does this study mean to you?