

*Cultural, Historical, and Geographic Significance*

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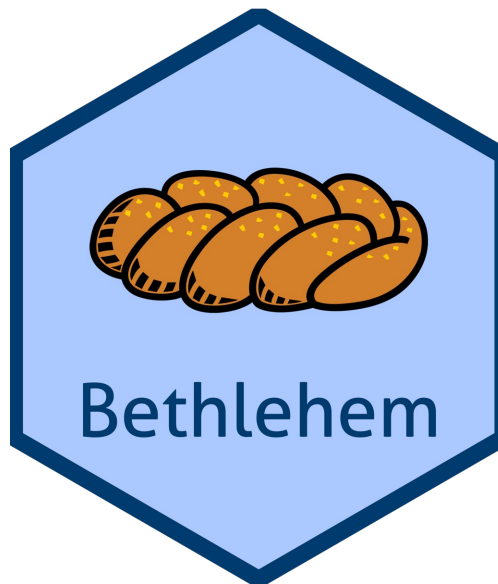


*Luke 2:1-38*

Lesson 4

1

*Cultural, Historical, and Geographic Significance*



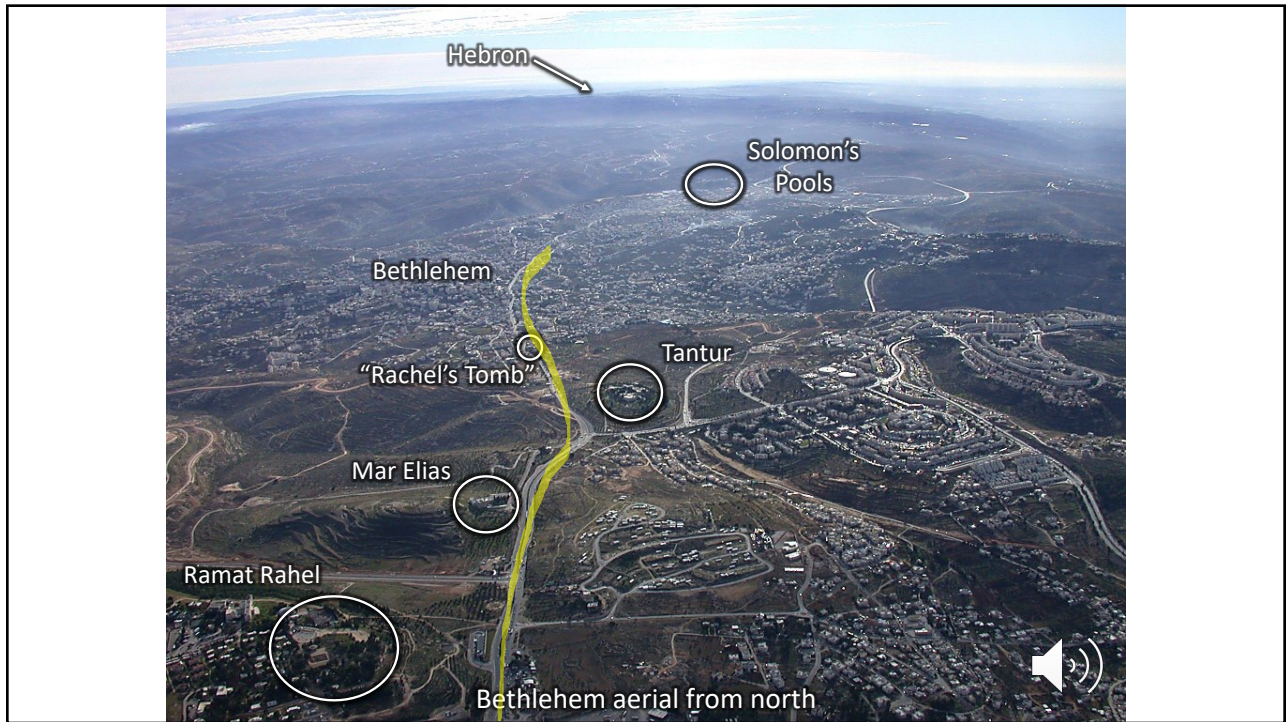
*Luke 2:1-38*

Lesson 4

2



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4

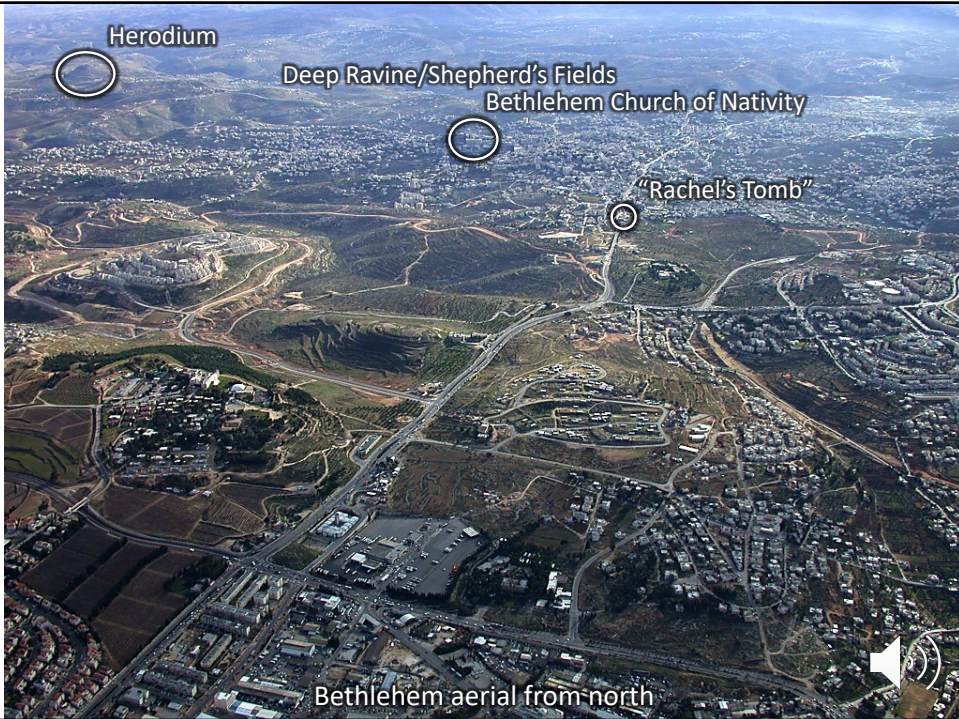




Bethlehem from north



5



Bethlehem aerial from north



6



*Genesis 35:16–20* Then they journeyed from Bethel. When they were still some distance from Ephrath [**Bethlehem**], Rachel went into labor, and she had hard labor. 17 And when her labor was at its hardest, the midwife said to her, “Do not fear, for you have another son.” 18 And as her soul was departing (for she was dying), she called his name Ben-oni; but his father called him Benjamin. 19 So Rachel died, and she was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, **Bethlehem**), 20 and Jacob set up a pillar over her tomb. It is the pillar of Rachel’s tomb, which is there to this day.

from Rachel's Tomb entrance



7

*Ruth 1:22:* So Naomi returned, and Ruth the Moabite her daughter-in-law with her, who returned from the country of Moab. And they came to **Bethlehem** at the beginning of barley harvest.



Women harvesting wheat near Bethlehem



8

*1 Samuel 16:6–7: When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is before him.” 7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”*



Bethlehem from north



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Bethlehem and Herodium view east from Beit Jalla



10





Herodium aerial

11



Herodium with lower pool

12



Bethlehem from Herodium



13



Bethlehem from north



14





Shepherd with sheep east of Bethlehem

15



Shepherd with flock near Bethlehem

16





Bethlehem Church of Nativity entrance



17



Bethlehem Church of Nativity courtyard



18





Bethlehem Church of Nativity entrance

19



Bethlehem Church of Nativity mosaic floors

20





Bethlehem Church of Nativity, cave of birth

21



Bethlehem Church of Nativity, traditional place of Jesus' birth

22

*Following the Messiah Video Series*



<https://youtu.be/FuY9NPXh0Yg>



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Bethlehem and Herodium view east from Beit Jalla



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### References

Bolen, Todd. "Bethlehem." PowerPoint presentation, Santa Clarita, CA, 2012.

---. "Herodium." PowerPoint presentation, Santa Clarita, CA, 2012.

Fink, Todd M. *Israel Biblical Sites Bible Companion*. Selah Book Press, 2019.



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