

ADVENTure 2019

Exploring Faith — Encountering Christ

**St Peter's Church
Phibsboro**

www.tarsus.ie

WELCOME

- ☐ Welcome!
- ☐ An exploration together...
- ☐ Fun start: a Christmas Quiz...



Sequence

- ☐ **Noticing the Differences**
- ☐ **The stories behind the story**
- ☐ **Citations?**
- ☐ **And the genealogy?**
- ☐ **The big picture**
- ☐ **Why do this?**

Luke 1-2

**1. Annunciation of the birth
of John the Baptist**

**2. Annunciation of the birth
of Jesus**

3. The Visitation

**4. The birth of John the
Baptist**

5. The birth of Jesus

6. The presentation

7. Jesus in the Temple

Matthew 1-2

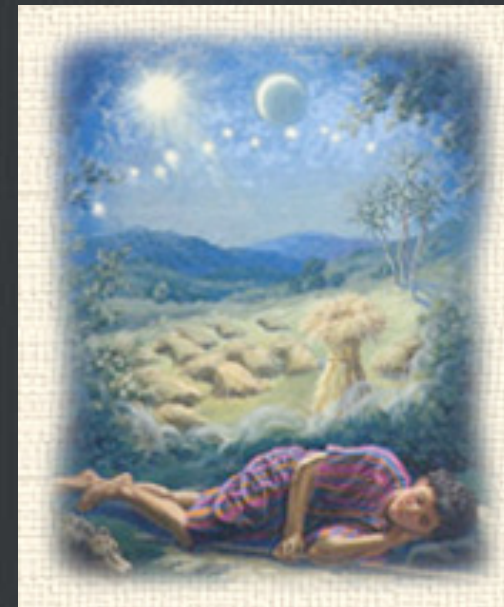
A.	Announcement to Joseph	1:18-25	Isaiah 7:14
B.	The Magi	2:1-12	Micah 5:1, 3 2Sam 5:2
C.	The Flight into Egypt	2:13-15	Hosea 11:1
D.	The Killing of Children	2:16-18	Jeremiah 31:15
E.	Return home (to Nazareth)	2:19-23	?Judges 13:5-7 ?Isaiah 11:1

Stories behind the Story

<input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy	Abraham, David, Exile
<input type="checkbox"/> Birth	Joseph
<input type="checkbox"/> Magi	Balaam / Balak
<input type="checkbox"/> Herod	Moses' birth
<input type="checkbox"/> Flight	Moses
<input type="checkbox"/> Return	Moses

The “Joseph” Story

- ☐ Genesis 37-50
- ☐ He dreams several times
- ☐ He goes down to Egypt
- ☐ In Egypt, he is a refuge for his family



The “Balaam” Story

- ❑ Numbers 22-24
- ❑ A evil king (Balaam) tries to get a seer (Balak) to bring disaster on Israel
- ❑ The seer fails and, instead of cursing, utters an oracle of blessing
- ❑ He prophecies a glorious future, “a star shall come out of Jacob”.



No camels? No kings?

- ☐ **Psa. 72:10** May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.
- ☐ **11** May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.
- ☐ **Psa. 72:15** Long may he live! May gold of Sheba be given to him. May prayer be made for him continually, and blessings invoked for him all day long.



No camels? No kings?

Is. 60:5 Then you shall see and be radiant;

your heart shall thrill and rejoice,

because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,

the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,

the young camels of Midian and Ephah;

all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,

and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

7 All the flocks of Kedar shall be gathered to you,

the rams of Nebaioth shall minister to you;

they shall be acceptable on my altar,

and I will glorify my glorious house.

The “Moses” Story

- ☐ Exodus 1: The Birth of Moses
- ☐ Exodus 2: Moses flees his homeland
- ☐ Exodus 3 and 15: Moses is called out of Egypt
- ☐ Let's look at the detail.



Jesus

Moses



Jesus

Matt. 2:13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him."

Moses

Ex. 2:15 When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh. He settled in the land of Midian, and sat down by a well.



Jesus

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Matt. 2:16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men.

Moses

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Ex. 1:22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."



Jesus

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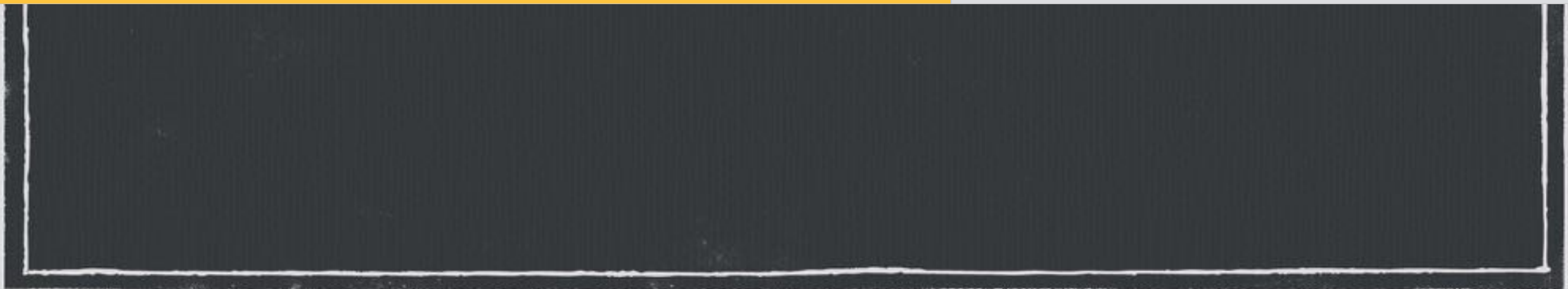
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Matt. 2:20 "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." **21** Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel.

Moses

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Ex. 1:22 Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Ex. 2:23 After a long time the king of Egypt died. **Ex. 4:19a** The Lord said to Moses.

Ex. 4:19b "Go back to Egypt; for all those who were seeking your life are dead." **20** So Moses took his wife and his sons, put them on a donkey and went back to the land of Egypt.

Citations

Is. 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Hebrew Bible (MT): young woman ('**almah**)

Greek Old Testament (LXX): virgin (**parthenos**)

Citations

**Mic. 5:2 But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.**

**2Sam. 5:2 For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was
you who led out Israel and brought it in. The Lord said to
you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you
who shall be ruler over Israel."**

Citations

Hos. 11:1 When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

Jer. 31:15 Thus says the Lord:
A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.

Citations

The last quotation doesn't really exist as such in the OT.

Is. 4:3 Whoever is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem
WILL BE CALLED holy,
everyone who has been recorded for life in Jerusalem.

Judg. 13:5 for you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor is to come on his head, for the boy shall be a **NAZIRITE** to God from birth. It is he who shall begin to deliver Israel from the hand of the Philistines.”

Judg. 13:7 but he said to me, ‘You shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the boy shall be a **NAZIRITE** to God from birth to the day of his death.’”

Citations

Is. 11:1 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch (**NEZER**) shall grow out of his roots

Gen. 49:26 The blessings of your father Joseph
are stronger than the blessings
of the eternal mountains,
the bounties of the everlasting hills;
may they be on the head of Joseph,
on the brow of him who was set apart (**NAZIR**)
from his brothers.

And the genealogy?

THE PATTERN OF THE GENEALOGY

POSSESSION (David)

PROMISE (Abraham)

LONGING (Christ)

LOSS (Exile)

1700 bce

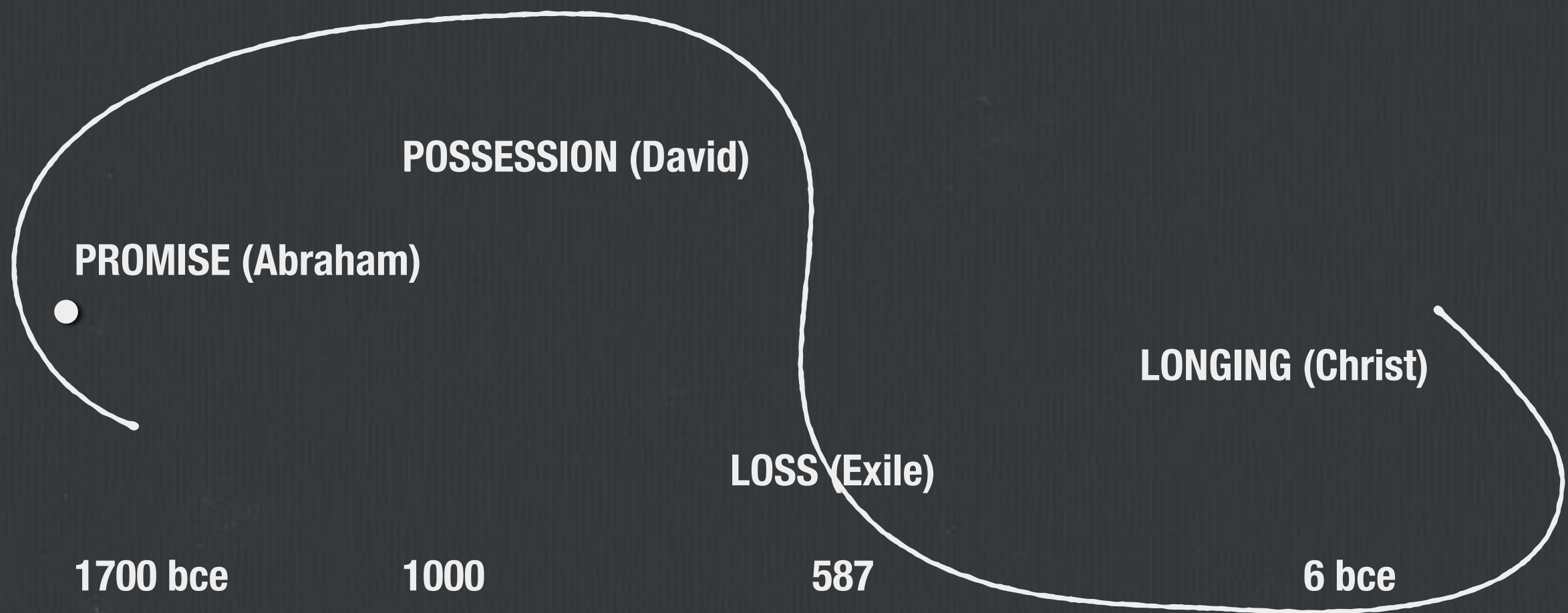
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587

6 bce

And the genealogy?

THE PATTERN OF THE GENEALOGY



The big picture

WHO?

1:1-17

Abraham

David

Exile

Tamar

Rahab

Ruth

Bathsheba

Mary

ORIGIN

HOW?

1:18-25

Ishmael

Isaac

Samson

David (Is 7:14)

BIRTH

WHERE?

2:1-12

Moses

Baalam

Kings

Camels

Jer 31 (Rachel)

EXILE

WHENCE?

2:13-22

Moses

Nazorean

Is 4:3; Judge 16:7;

Gen 49:26; Is 11:1

Remnant

Samson

Joseph

David

EXODUS

Question: why do this?

- ☐ **Writing for Jewish-Christian community in Antioch in Syria**
- ☐ **Technically, a sect, which has just broken away from the parent religion**
- ☐ **Claim to be the perfect realisation of Judaism**
- ☐ **Takes to itself the major symbolic figures of the mother religion, especially the figure of Moses**

Question: why do this?

- ☐ **Before the story starts (in 4:17), the fullest possible account of who Jesus is**
- ☐ **Descendant of Abraham, son of David, Son of God (Holy Spirit), Emmanuel, Jesus (= God saves), king of the Jews, ruler, shepherd of Israel, a nazir**
- ☐ **Matthew 3:1-4:16 continue presentation of Jesus before he begins his ministry**



Conversation

