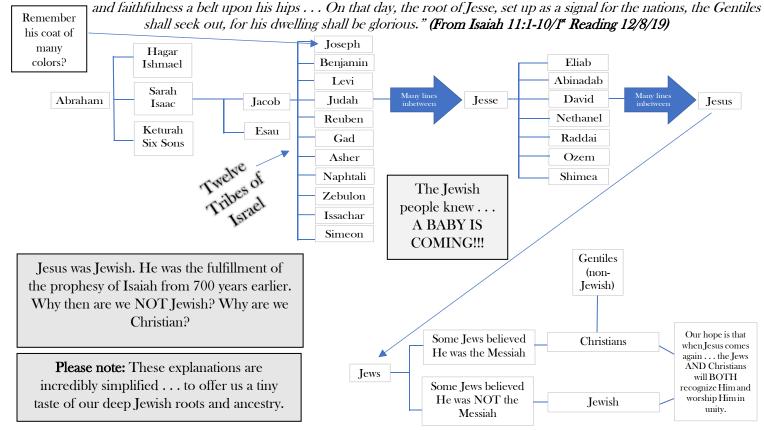


- **Prophecy Fulfilled**
- 2. Jesus, the Living Bread from Heaven
- 3. Room in the Inn

Prophecy Fulfilled

700 Years of Preparation for Jewish people about the coming Messiah ...

"On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD, and his delight shall be the fear of the LORD. Not by appearance shall he judge, nor by hearsay shall he decide, but he shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the land's afflicted. He shall strike the ruthless with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall slav the wicked. Justice shall be the band around his waist,



"Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eves of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing." (From Isaiah 35:1-10/1" Reading 12/15/19)

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel." (Isaiah 7:14 (Matthew's Gospel 12/22/19)

Jesus, the Living Bread from Heaven

"Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." (James 5:7-8/2ª Reading 12/15/19)

"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus' that the whole world should be enrolled . . . So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels went away from them to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go, then, to Bethlehem to see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went in haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the <u>manger</u>. "Luke 2: 1-16

What is a manger? Feeding trough for animals. Where was Jesus Born? Bethlehem (meaning House of Bread)

"Arise, all ye nobles and peasants; Mary invites all, rich and poor, just and sinners, to enter the cave of Bethlehem, to adore and to kiss the feet of her new-born Son. Go in, then, all ye devout souls; go and see the Creator of heaven and earth on a little hay, under the form of a little Infant; but so beautiful that he sheds all around rays of light. Now that he is born and is lying on the straw, the cave is no longer horrible, but is become a paradise. Let us enter; let us not be afraid." St. Alphonsus Liguori

Room in the Inn

We are the temple of the Holy Spirit. What if we . . . are the Inn? Is there room for the baby in your Inn?

"Jesus, help me to simplify my life by learning what you want me to be – and becoming that person." St. Thérèse of Lisieux

"He who possesses God lacks nothing: God alone suffices." St. Teresa of Ávila

"Our hearts were made for you, Oh Lord and they are restless until they rest in You." St. Augustine

Whatever is blocking Jesus from your Inn . . . recognize it and remove it. Make room for Him in your Inn and allow yourself to be loved. No more hunting. No more restlessness. Just love.

"Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts." (Colossians 3:12-15/2^d Reading 12/29/19)

"We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." **St. (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta.**

Foundational Item to work on this month (10-minutes daily prayer, church on Sunday, staying out of mortal sin):

Ideas to Build Myself/Others/Church this month: