

Infancy Narratives Overlap

1. The parents to be are Mary and Joseph who are legally engaged or married, but have not yet come to live together or have sexual relations (Mt. 1:18; Lk. 1:27, 34).
2. Joseph is of Davidic descent (Mt. 1:16,20; Lk. 1:27, 32; 2:4).
3. There is an angelic announcement of the forthcoming birth of the child (Mt. 1:20-23; Lk. 1:30-35).
4. The conception of the child by Mary is not through intercourse with her husband (Mt. 1:20, 23, 25; Lk. 1:34).
5. The conception is through the Holy Spirit (Mt. 1:18,20; Lk. 1:35).
6. There is a directive from the angel that the child is to be named Jesus (Mt. 1:21; Lk. 1:31).
7. An angel states that Jesus is the Savior (Mt. 1:21; Lk. 2:11).
8. The birth of the child takes place after the parents have come to live together (Mt. 1:24-25; Lk. 2:5-6).
9. The birth takes place at Bethlehem (Mt. 2:1; Lk. 2:4-6).
10. The birth is chronologically related to the reign (days) of Herod the Great (Mt. 2:1; Lk. 1:5).
11. The child is reared at Nazareth (Mt. 2:23; Lk. 2:39).

Brown, Raymond. *The Birth of the Messiah: A Commentary on the Infancy Narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke*. New York: Dell Publishing Group, 1993. p 35.