3 BC – JESUS RETURNS TO THE HOLY LAND

Songs 7:1

"How beautiful are thy feet with shoes

O prince's daughter!

the joints of thy thighs are like jewels

the work of the hands of a cunning workman."

Jesus is only in his fifth year – and already Jesus has returned! That is a funny thing to say – but at a deeper level – the Spirit is saying to the bride – do not give up hope – I AM coming again.

Yes, we are sure Mary had beautiful feet. And she did not walk and ride back to the Holy Land without shoes. But 'feet with shoes' is an allusion to 'the beautiful feet on the mountains':

'How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that brings good tidings, that publishes peace; that brings good tidings of good, that publishes salvation; that says unto Zion, Thy God reigns!' (Isaiah 52:7)

Perhaps there were more than a few saints – in Bethlehem especially – who got word of the holy child born in a manger. The shepherds who saw the angels and acquaintances would have connected the events of the Emperor's census requiring families to return to their ancestral villages with the prophecy of Micah 5 v 2: 'but you Bethlehem Ephratha, you are little among the thousands of Judah, but out of you shall come forth to me the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from old, from everlasting'.

News of the coming of the Messiah was spreading – only to be dashed when Herod massacred the Innocents. But look! Look where? There - on the road coming up from Egypt. Who can it be? It is Mary, and Joseph, and the Holy Child. 'His goings forth are from old, from everlasting'!

The words in the verse say 'O prince's daughter'. This is the reference to Mary, the biological parent of Jesus, who was descended from David according to Luke 3:23-38. Joseph, the legal father of Jesus, was also descended from David but through different lines. See Matthew chapter 1 for the lineage of Joseph.

The expression 'the joints of thy thighs are like jewels' points to the uniqueness and esteem of the Virgin Mary in God's eyes. Mary offered herself to be the birthing vessel, that God might have a Son. Not a son for Mary to keep. A son for God to keep. Like Samuel – raised with all a mother's love – but dedicated to God.

When Mary was on the road to Bethlehem – how could she not think of Rachel? (Rachel died giving birth to Benjamin in Ephrath). When Mary accepted God's invitation she was signing up to pay any price to do God's will. Mary did not flinch. 'Behold the handmaiden of the LORD'. How the tales of her journeys and her willingness to sacrifice for God must have moved Jesus deeply in his soul with each retelling.

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mark h lane

Songs 7:1 is the 17,629th verse in the Bible.

If you have a mind for wisdom, learn how God packed information into the precise location of this verse please read on.

SPIRITUAL NUMBER ANALYSIS

 $17,629 = 61 \times 17 \times 17$

The meaning is: $[17629 = 61 \times 17 \times 17]$

Victory (17) Victory (17) Messiah – King of the Jews (61)

Or it can also be translated: [17629 = 61 x 289]

Give Glory to God! (289) Messiah – King of the Jews (61)

The young child Jesus was not murdered when Herod 'gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem who were two years old and under in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi'. Jesus was saved because 'the Angel of the LORD appeared to Joseph in a dream 'Get up' he said 'take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt' (Matt. 2:13-17)

The Angel of the LORD explained to Zechariah when he announced the birth of John 'I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God.' (Luke 1:19) From this we know it was by the direct intervention of God – through Gabriel – that Jesus was saved from the rage of Herod. Glory to God!