

Question-

I have appreciated hearing about Jewish culture and its relation to the parables of Jesus, **I would like to hear more about Luke's interview of Mary.**

Who was Luke?

- A Syrian from Antioch
- Disciple of and Personal Physician of St Paul
- Only Gentile to write a book of the bible
- Third to write his gospel and the Acts of the Apostles, after St. Mark and St. Mathew.
- Wrote for predominantly Gentile Christians
- Claims to have interviewed eye-witnesses for his account. Blessed Virgin Mary was one of them.



Of the 4 gospels, St. Luke's is the only one with details about the Blessed Virgin Mary's **Annunciation**, **Visitation**, and the **Infancy Narrative of Jesus**. These details were through his direct encounter and interview of Mary.

Only in Luke:

**The Annunciation
1:26- 38**

**The Visitation
2:1-7**



St. Luke gives Historical references

“Now in those days *a decree went out from Caesar Augustus*, that a census be taken....This was the *first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria...*”

Augustus and Quirinius: Both men were governors of their various lands historically speaking: their mention locates the event within the calendar. **Mothers/ women and dates.**

Only in Luke

The Infancy Narrative of Jesus 2:8-20_____

“And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. **Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son;**

Bethlehem: *Where temple lambs were born.*

Jesus is born on a journey

Only in Luke (infancy cont.)

“..and **she wrapped Him in swaddling cloths**, and **laid Him in a manger**, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

“**Swaddling Cloth**” mentioned 3 times; a sign of his death. The cloth was a shroud taken by Joseph on the journey as was the custom of Jewish men in case there was a death along the way.

Manger: A manger was a type of stall or trough where animals were fed. He is the **Lamb of God** laid in the manger



Only in Luke (infancy cont.)

Angels: A Son is born

Certain shepherds : Levitical
Shepherds

Eight days after his birth, then
baby is given the name 'Jesus' and,
according to Jewish law, **is**
circumcised.

The **Presentation** of the Child in
the Temple after 40 days



Only in Luke *need scripture ref*

The Canticle of Simeon

“Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: “Now, Master, you let your servant go in peace. You have fulfilled your promise. My own eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all peoples. A light to bring the Gentiles from darkness and the glory of your people Israel. The child’s father and mother marveled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: **“This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.”**”



Only in Luke

The Finding of the
Child Jesus in the
Temple at age 12

