The World's Most Influential & Glorious Child!

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Good morning, Jim. Next Tuesday we celebrate the birth of the world's most influential, glorious child ever born, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Over 700 years before His birth, the Prophet Isaiah said, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

Dr. Luke, an apostle of Jesus, told of the angel's announcement to Mary that she had favor with God, would bring forth a son and name Him "Jesus." He would be great, the Son of the Highest, sit on His father David's throne and reign forever.

In utter shock, Mary exclaimed, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?" The angel answered, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee ... that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God. ...For with God nothing shall be impossible."

But Jesus would not be born in Nazareth, where Mary and Joseph lived. Centuries before, God had announced through the prophets that His Son, the ruler of Israel, would be born in Bethlehem, which means "House of Bread," a subtle clue that Jesus IS the "Bread of Life."

In those days, getting from Nazareth to Bethlehem was no small thing ... no trains or buses ... just four-footed animals for those who had them ... no reason for an expectant woman to travel rough, dirty roads to insignificant places ... UNLESS she was part of God's plan to give birth to His Son, which Mary was. So, God intervened to get Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem in time for the birth of Jesus.

Now, think about this. God used the pagan government of Caesar Augustus to issue an executive order, "that all the world should be taxed," to force everyone to go back home to pay taxes. It was NO coincidence that Bethlehem was Joseph's hometown. It was NO coincidence that Caesar decided at, precisely, that time to collect a world-wide tax. It was all in God's eternal plan for Jesus Christ to be born, then live and die that we may have eternal life and He used the taxing power of a pagan ruler to get it done. So, enjoy our Savior's birthday! Bake Him a birthday cake, top it with 2,012 candles and have a very Merry Christmas! For *Georgia Insight* I'm Sue Ella Deadwyler, your Capitol correspondent.

Merry Christmas!

