**HANAKKUH AND THE TRUTH ABOUT CHRISTMAS**

**John 10:22-23 KJVER*****22****And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter.* ***23****And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch.*

**John 4:23-24 MEV*****23****Yet the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. For the Father seeks such to worship Him.****24****God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth.”*

**Philippians 2:5-11 KJVER*****5****Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:* ***6****Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:* ***7****But made himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:* ***8****And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient to death, even the death of the cross.* ***9****Wherefore God also has highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name:* ***10****That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;* ***11****And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

**John 1:1-5 MEV***In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.****2****He was in the beginning with God.****3****All things were created through Him, and without Him nothing was created that was created.****4****In Him was life, and the life was the light of mankind.****5****The light shines in darkness, but the darkness has not overcome it* (extinguished it).

**Luke 1:5-13 MEV*****5****There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judea, a certain priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth.****6****They were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly.****7****But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they both were now well advanced in years.* ***8****Now while he served as priest before God, when his division was on duty,****9****according to the custom of the priest’s office, his lot was to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord.****10****And the whole crowd of people were praying outside at the hour of incense.* ***11****Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense.****12****When Zechariah saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.****13****But the angel said to him, “Do not fear, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.*

**Luke 1:23-45****MEV*****23****As soon as the days of his service were fulfilled, he departed to his own home.****24****After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she hid herself, saying,****25****“Thus the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among men.”* ***26****In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,****27****to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary.****28****The angel came to her and said, “Greetings, you who are highly favored. The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women.”* ***29****When she saw him, she was troubled by his words, and considered in her mind what kind of greeting this might be.****30****But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.****31****Listen, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son and shall call His name JESUS.****32****He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest. And the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David,****33****and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever. And of His kingdom there will be no end.”* ***34****Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”* ***35****The angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you. Therefore the Holy One who will be born will be called the Son of God.****36****Listen, your cousin Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age. And this is the sixth month with her who was declared barren.****37****For with God nothing will be impossible.”* ***38****Mary said, “I am the servant of the Lord. May it be unto me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.* ***39****In those days Mary arose and quickly went into the hill country, to a city of Judah,****40****and entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.****41****When Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.****42****She spoke out with a loud voice, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!****43****But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?****44****Indeed, as soon as the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.****45****Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a completion to those things which were told her by the Lord.”*

### Matthew 2:1-12, 16 MEV *2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, wise men came from the east to Jerusalem, 2saying, “Where is He who was born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him.” 3When Herod the king heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. 4And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where Christ should be born. 5They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote: 6‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are no longer least among the princes of Judah; for out of you shall come a Governor, who will shepherd My people Israel.’[*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Matthew+2%3A1-12%2C+16+&version=MEV#fen-MEV-23176a)*]” 7Then Herod, when he had privately called the wise men, carefully inquired of them what time the star appeared. 8And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search diligently for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word again, so that I may come and worship Him also.” 9When they heard the king, they departed. And the star which they saw in the east went before them until it came and stood over where the young Child was. 10When they saw the star, they rejoiced with great excitement. 11And when they came into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary, His mother, and fell down and worshipped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh. 12But being warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they returned to their own country by another route … 16Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was utterly furious and sent forth and killed all the male children who were in Bethlehem and the surrounding region, from two years old and under, based on the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men.*

Revelation 22:14-15 MEV***14****Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.****15****Outside are dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters and everyone who loves and practices a lie.*

Revelation 21:23-27 MEV***23****The city has no need of sun or moon to shine in it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.****24****And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth shall bring their glory and honor into it.****25****Its gates shall never be shut by day, for there shall be no night there.****26****They shall bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations.****27****No unclean thing shall ever enter it, nor shall anyone who commits abomination or falsehood, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life.*