

Bethlehem
STAR

Christmas Calories
DO Count p. 2

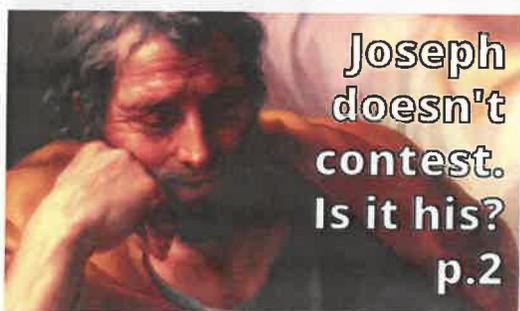
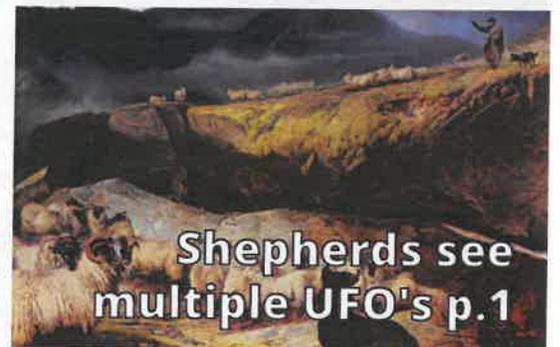
Church Openly Supports
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CHRISTMAS SCANDAL

Pious young Nazarene found to be with child. Details 12/11/16 and p.1

Jesus' Twisted Family Tree.
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Shepherds See multiple UFOs

Several shepherds near Bethlehem were watching their flocks by night when one of them reportedly spotted a host of unidentified flying objects. They also claim those UFOs sang songs and announced the birth of a royal infant.



Patriarch Marries Daughter-in-law

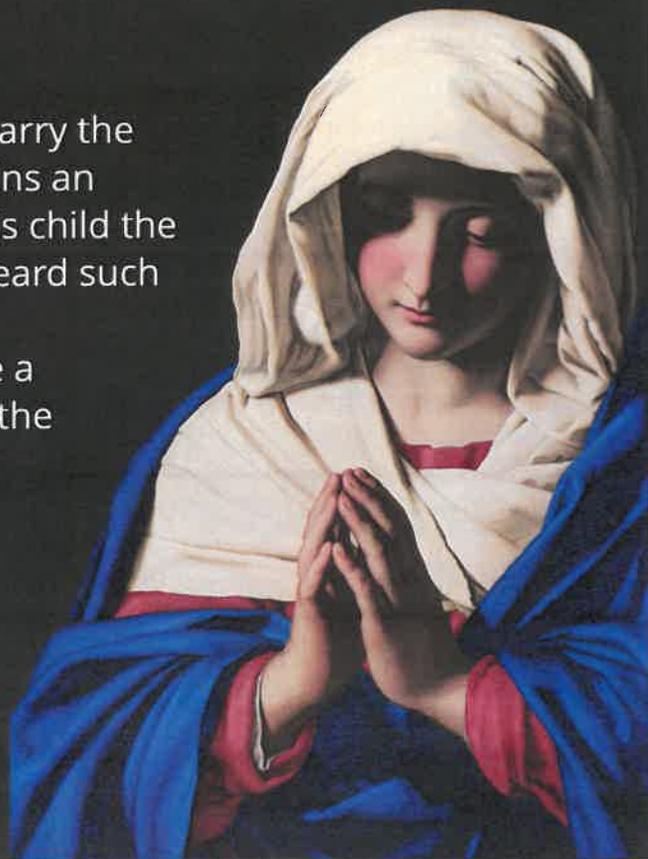
The great, great grandmother of Jesus, wife of Judah (the patriarch of the titular tribe), is a disgraced woman. Her tainted reputation is too graphic to share in these respectable pages. It was an ugly affair all around involving prostitution and pregnancy. The king of kings, the hope of all mankind, surely would not be descended from such immorality.

What would the nations think of us if our messiah were the descendant of a prostitute? The teachers and temple leaders should never accept such a man.

Pious Young Nazarene Found to Be with Child

A young woman in Nazareth claims to carry the "child of God." This young lady, Mary, maintains an "angel of the Lord" came to her promising this child the throne of David. This is the first time we've heard such a defense for adultery: "God did it."

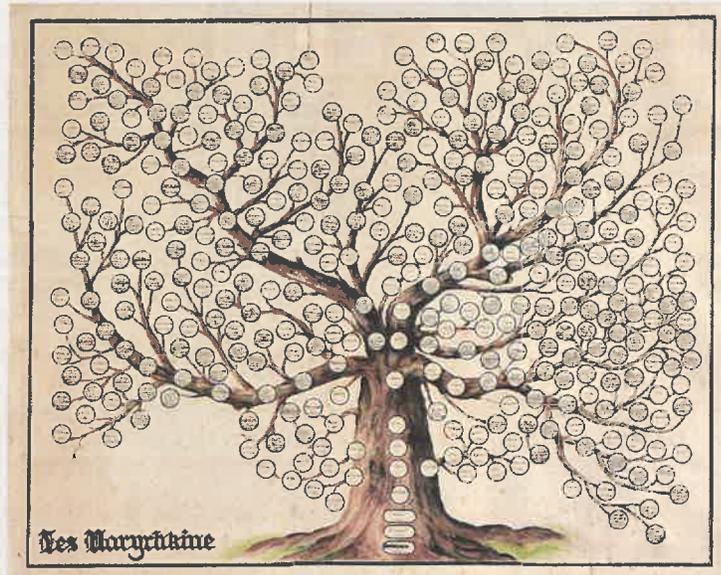
Mary's betrothed, Joseph, has not made a public statement. Sources close to him think the baby isn't his, but Joseph's lack of a public denouncement or divorce leaves many questions. Religious leaders from both the Hillelites and Shammaites hold that Joseph would remain righteous in choosing divorce. Mary faces a grim fate either way, disgrace or stoning. Both leave you dead to the community. Mother of God indeed.



Jesus' Twisted Family Tree

For over a thousand years, we have awaited the coming of the Messiah, a deliverer who would take away our sins, conquer our enemies and usher in his kingdom. Many claim that this Jesus of Nazareth is God's messiah come at last.

Scholars were eager to discover which of the holiest men would find their names in the genealogy of the King of Kings. Unfortunately, our archivists have discovered some irregularities in Jesus' family tree, such as adultery, murder, incest, and prostitution. Some followers of Jesus even add women and foreigners. How could the messiah, the perfect one, come from such a line of sinners? Only one possibility remains.



Joseph Doesn't Contest. Is it His?

Mary's betrothed, Joseph, hasn't publicly responded to her pregnancy, leaving us (and everyone else) wondering who the father might be...

Christmas Calories DO Count

In a twist from what so many have always believed, recent studies suggest that calories eaten during the holiday season do in fact count. Further studies will need to be completed before definitive answers can be accepted by this reporter and the general public.

Wisemen Called to Secret Meeting with King Herod

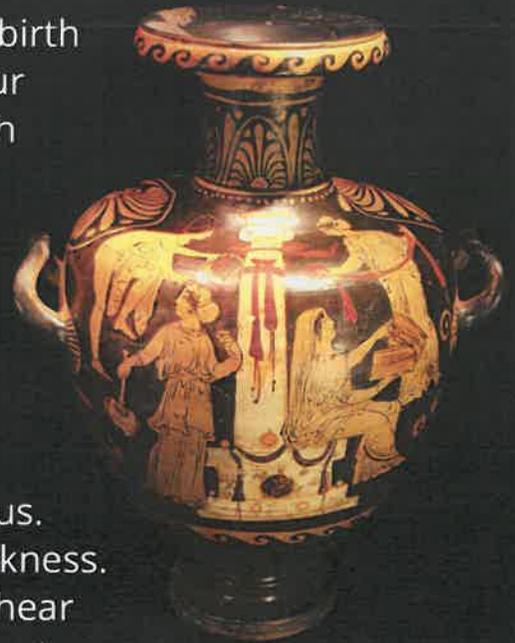
Palace sources confirm that wise men from the east have had a secret meeting with King Herod. Sources also suggest they inquired about a certain royal prophecy and a recent celestial disturbance centered on Bethlehem.

This is Our Hope?

The grapevine is atwitter about the supposed birth of a "messiah." But a baby is a poor challenger to our current situation. Herod the Great has ruled through terror and violence. Even now he tries his own son for treason.

Violence against and by the Romans ruins the land. Matthias and Judas were executed for destroying the Roman monument near the Temple gate. Archalaus slaughtered over 3000 people opposed to his reign. Governor Varus of Antioch mustered two legions and burned the city of Emmaus.

We need God in this world of violence and darkness. How could anyone think that God most high would hear our cries and respond with a helpless infant? The most horrific piece of this rumor is that we look to such foolishness for an ounce of hope.



Church Openly Supports Scandal Laden Savior

Despite clear knowledge of Jesus' checkered past, the leadership and members of Effort Church still embrace this scandalous messiah. Clearly such a Savior must be well versed in human weakness and its consequences. Clearly he would know what forgiveness means.



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Sunday @ 9:30 am (Traditional)
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