A stained glass window depicting a group of people in a church setting. The scene is dimly lit, with a central figure in a white robe and a red sash, possibly Jesus, being the focus. Other figures in various colored robes are visible around him, some looking towards him. The background shows architectural elements like a window with a cross and some foliage.

Lk. 2:42

And when he [Jesus] was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom [Ethos] of the feast.



The Word and Science

6

Eastern Customs at the Time of Jesus # 1

September, 6th, 2014

1. The parents of a male child usually meet with the parents of a female child and arrange their marriage (*i.e.*, child Joseph and Mary).

Gen. 24:2-4

And Abraham said unto his eldest servant..., Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh: And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that **thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites**, among whom I dwell: But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.



2. The groom-to-be or his family provide money [the Dowry] to the parents of her family for their daughter.



Gen. 29:18

And Jacob loved Rachel; and said [to Rachel's father], **I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter.**

Jn. 3:29

...the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him [the groom] rejoiceth greatly...

3. The groom-to-be, one year before the actual marriage, gives to the bride-to-be, a valuable token for their future.

Gen. 24:30

And it came to pass, when he [Laban, Rebekah's brother] saw the earring and bracelets upon his sister's hands...

Lk. 15:8

Either **what woman having ten pieces of silver**, if she lose one piece, doth not light a candle, and sweep the house, and seek diligently till she find *it*?



4. The bride and groom prepare for their marriage with the help of their families for a year.



Lk. 1:39-40, 56

And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth...

Mary abode with her about three months, and returned to her own house.

5. The wedding celebration lasts for several days.

Jn. 2:1, 3-4

And **the third day** there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there... And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? **mine hour is not yet come.**



6. The law declared that the honeymoon lasts for one year; during that year they live and dine “only” with their families.



Dt. 24:5

When a man hath taken a new wife, he shall not go out to war, neither shall he be charged with any business: *but* he shall be free at home one year, and shall cheer up his wife which he hath taken.

Lk. 14:20

And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

7. The law said that the parents of the bride shall keep the tokens of her virginity (white sheets and white clothing with her first blood after losing her virginity).

Dt. 22:13-15

If any man take a wife, and go in unto her, and hate her... Then shall the father of the damsel, and her mother, take and bring forth *the tokens of the damsel's virginity* unto the elders of the city in the gate...

The hymen



ANNULAR
HYMEN



SEPARATE
HYMEN



CRIBRIFORM
HYMEN



PAROUS
INTROITUS

8. The child was salted and swaddled, as a commitment by the parents, of his training in truth and righteousness.



~ 586 B.C.

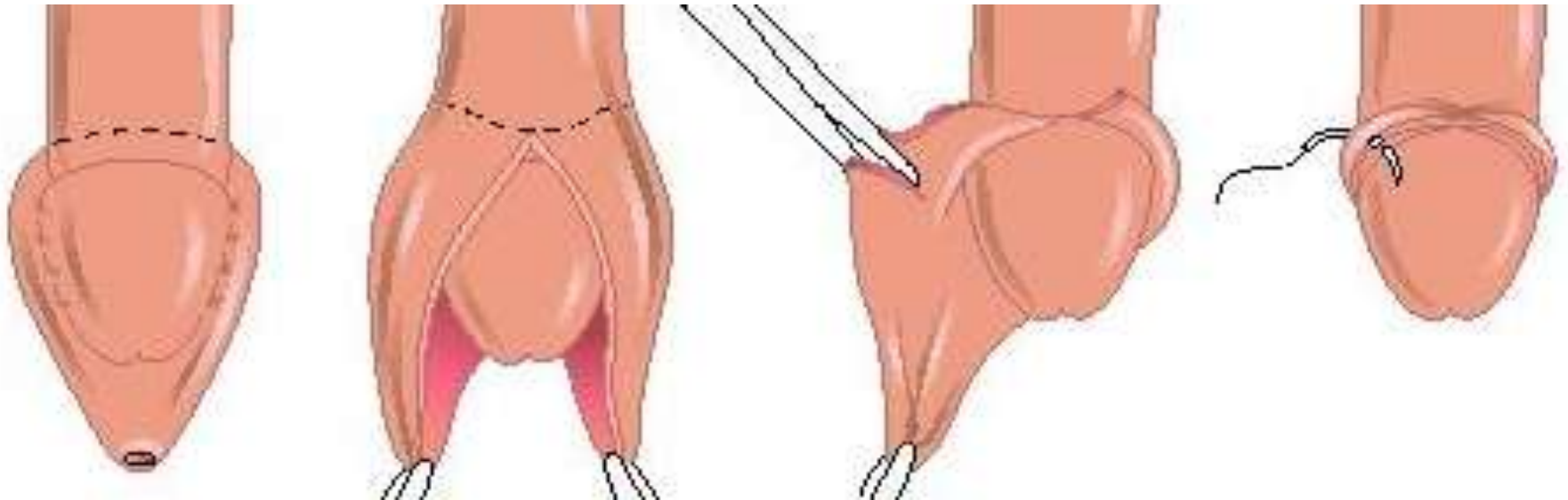
Ez. 16:4

And *as for* thy nativity [oh, Jerusalem], in the day thou wast born: 1) thy navel was not cut, 2) neither wast thou washed in water to supple *thee*; 3) **thou wast not salted at all**, 4) nor swaddled at all.

9. The boy was given a name at the time of his circumcision in the eighth day.

Gn. 17:12

And he that is **eight days old** shall be **circumcised** among you, every man child in your generations, he that is born in the house, or bought with money of any stranger, which *is* not of thy seed.



10. The law declared that at the 40th day of a boy's birth, the parents needed to go to the Temple of Jerusalem to present him to God, and to offer a purifying sacrifice.



Lk. 2:22-23

And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him [Jesus] to Jerusalem [in the 40th day], to present *him* to the Lord ...

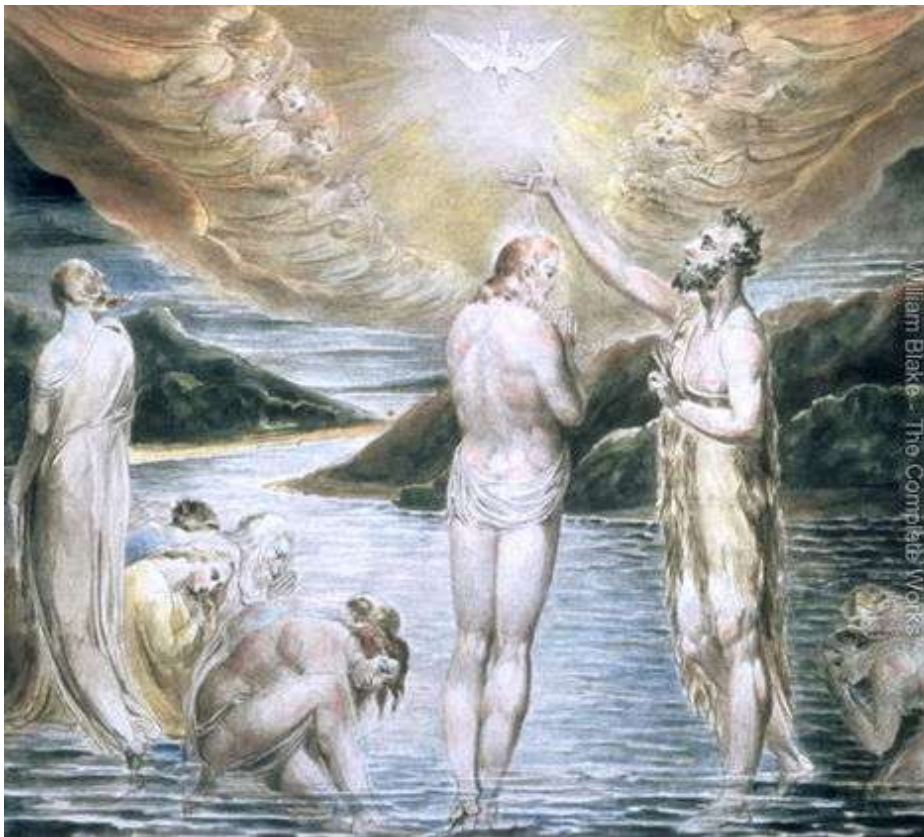
11. The adolescent man was presented to God at his 12th or 13th year in the Temple of Jerusalem at one of its 3 main Feasts, as a man responsible for his acts.



Lk. 2:42

And when he [Jesus] was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the **custom** [ethos] of the feast.

12. The brief practice in the Eastern lands of the water baptism represented the washing off of sins in preparation to receive the Messiah.



Mt. 3:5-6

Then went out to him
[John the Baptist]
Jerusalem, and all
Judaea, and all the region
round about Jordan, and
were baptized of him in
Jordan, confessing their
sins.

Now, we are going to be fitting those Orientalisms
Chronologically !!!



1. Marriage pre-arrangements.

2. Dowry to Parents of Bride.

3. Token to Bride.



Approximately (~) on **March, 4 B.C.**
Joseph gave to Mary the coins of silver
for their Espousals



Elisabeth was pregnant three months after the Espousals of Joseph with Mary.

Lk. 1:23-25

And it came to pass, that, as soon as the days of his [Zacharias'] ministration were accomplished, he departed to his own house. And after those days his wife Elisabeth conceived, and hid herself five months, saying, Thus hath the Lord dealt with me in the days wherein he looked on *me*, to take away my reproach among men.

~ June, 4 B.C.



The Divine pregnancy of Mary happened nine months after their Engagement (the giving of the token).

~ December, 4 B.C.

Lk. 1:34-35

Then said Mary unto the angel,
How shall this be, seeing I know
not a man? And the angel
answered and said unto her, The
Holy Ghost shall come upon thee,
and **the power of the Highest
shall overshadow thee:**
therefore also **that holy thing**
which shall be born of thee shall
be called **the Son of God.**



4. Preparation.



~ March, 4 B.C. to March 3, B.C.

As soon as she got pregnant, Mary visited her cousin Elizabeth during the last three months of Elizabeth's pregnancy, which were the first three months of Mary's pregnancy.

~ December, 4 B.C.

Lk. 1:36-38

And, behold [Gabriel said], thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and **this is the sixth month with her**, who was called barren. For **with God nothing shall be impossible.**

And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; **be it unto me according to thy word...**



Lk. 1:56-57

And Mary abode with her about three months, and returned to her own house. Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son.



~ December, 4 B.C. to March, 3 B.C.

5. Wedding Celebration.



~ March to April, 3 B.C.

Mt. 1:18-21

...Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and **thou** [Joseph] **shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.**



~ **March to
September 19,
3 B.C.**

6. Honeymoon!



~ April, 3 **B.C.** to April, 2
B.C.

7. Tokens of virginity.

Dt. 22:16-17

...the damsel's father shall say unto the elders, I gave my daughter unto this man to wife, and he hateth her; And, lo, he hath given occasions of speech *against her*, saying, I found not thy daughter a maid; and yet these *are the tokens of my daughter's virginity*. And they shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city.

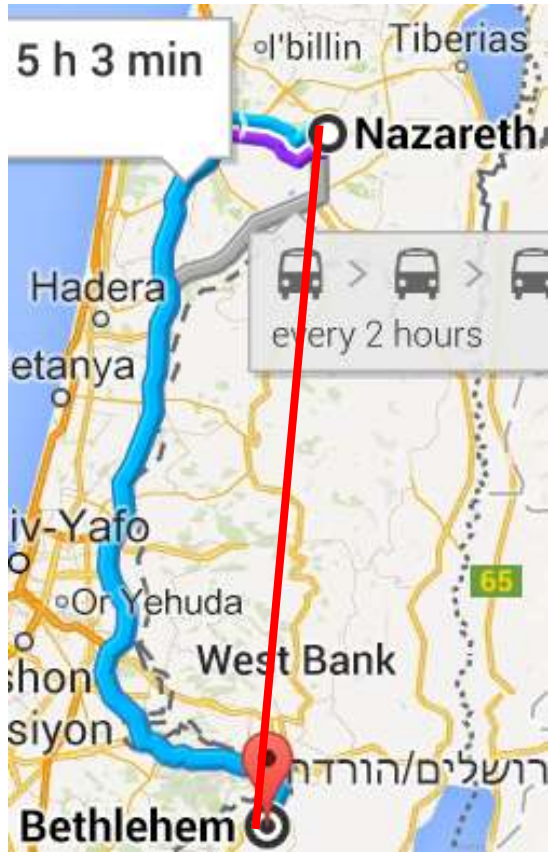
~ **March to September 18, 3 B.C.**



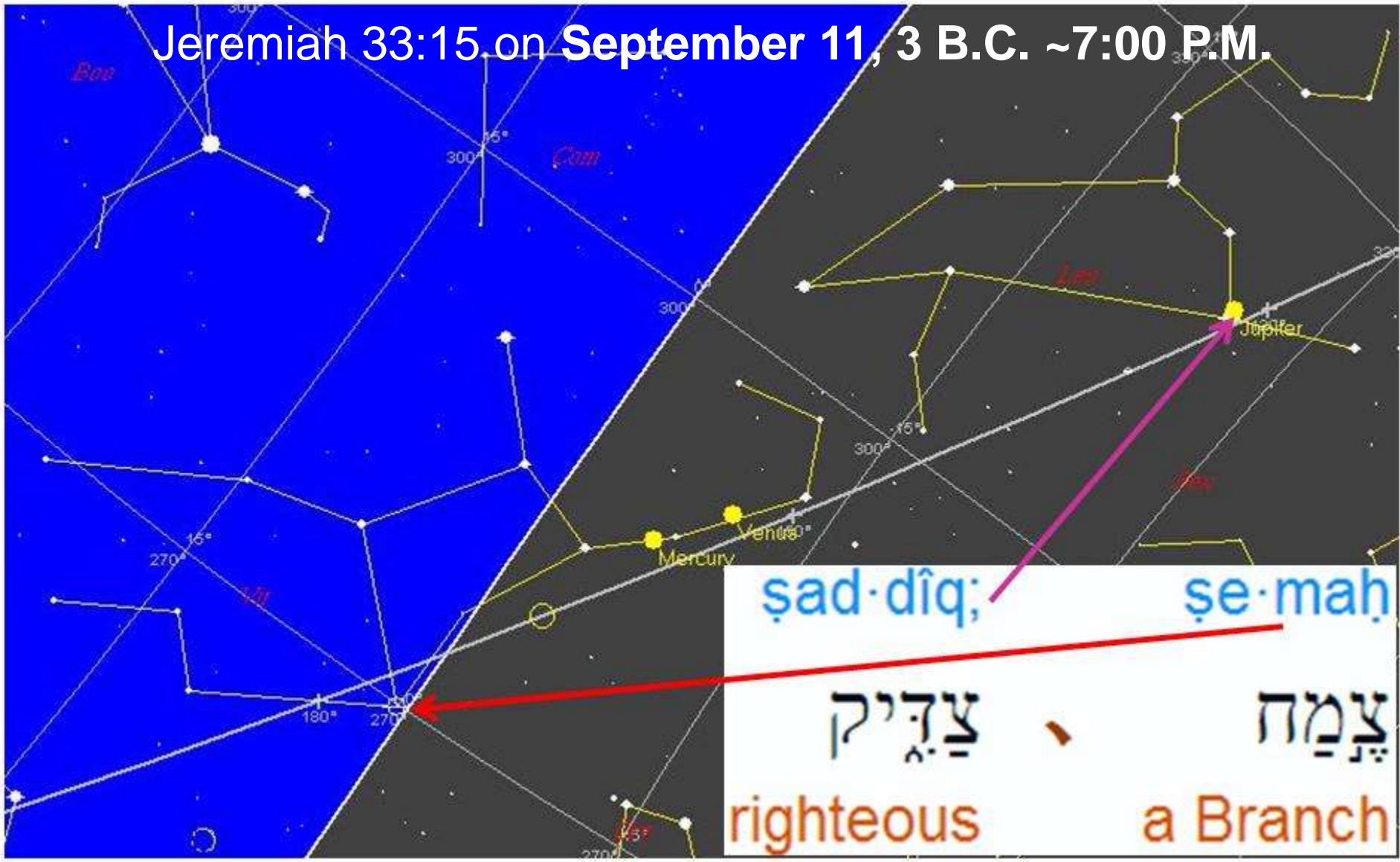
Before the birth of John the Baptist, Mary returns to Nazareth to marry Joseph, and six months later she delivers in Bethlehem.



~ September 3 to 11, 3 B.C.



Jeremiah 33:15 on **September 11, 3 B.C. ~7:00 P.M.**



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şe·mah

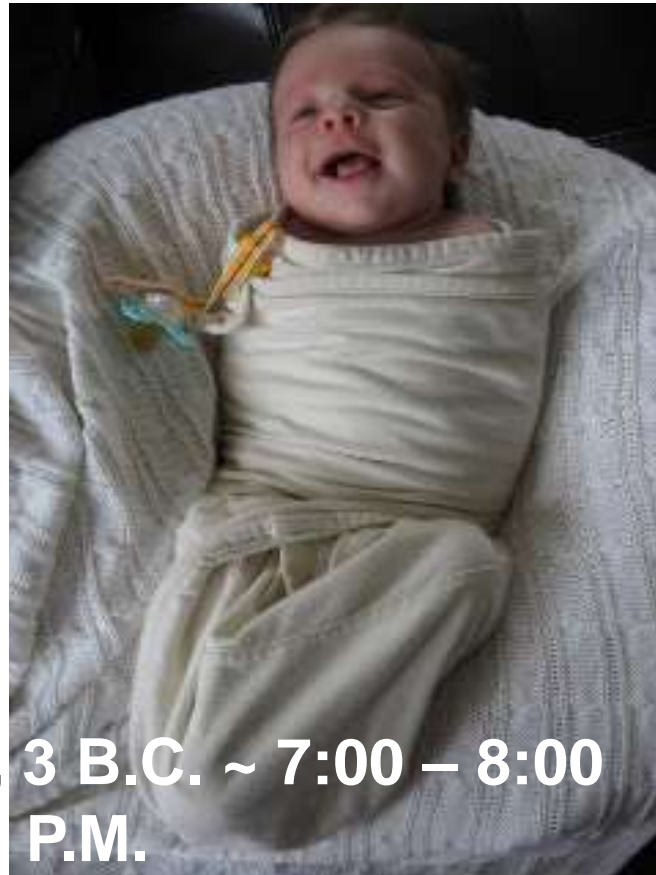
צַדִּיק

צֵמַח

righteous

a Branch

8. Salting and swaddling.



September 11, 3 B.C. ~ 7:00 – 8:00
P.M.

Lk. 2:7, 12

And she brought forth
her firstborn son, and
wrapped him in
swaddling clothes, and
laid him in a manger...
this *shall be* a sign
unto you; Ye shall find
the babe wrapped in
swaddling clothes,
lying in a manger.

Mary remained unclean for 7* + 33 days after the birth of Jesus.

Lev. 12:2-4

...If a woman have conceived seed, and born a man child: then **she shall be unclean seven days;*** according to the days of the separation for her infirmity shall she be unclean. And **in the eighth** day the flesh of his foreskin shall be **circumcised**. And she **shall then continue in the blood of her purifying three and thirty days;** she shall touch no hallowed thing, nor come into the sanctuary, until the days of her purifying be fulfilled.

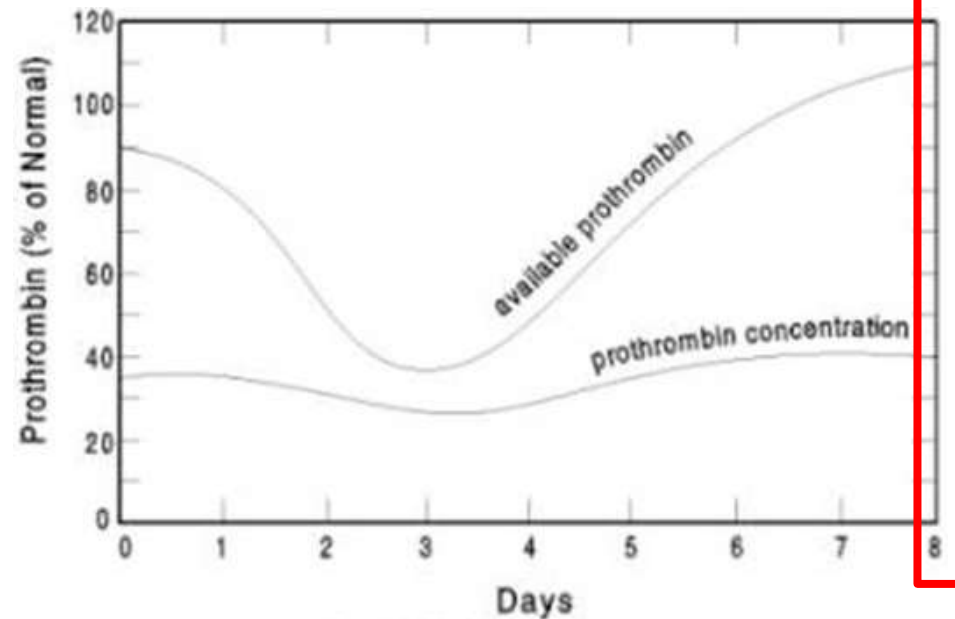


* **September 18, 3 B.C.**

9. The Circumcision Christening.

Lk. 2:21

And when **eight days** were accomplished for the **circumcising** of the child, **his name was called** JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.



10. Presentation and Purification at the Temple of Jerusalem.



Lk. 2:24

...And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

~ October 21, 3 B.C.

From Jerusalem they moved to
Nazareth and from there to
Bethlehem.



Rest of their time in Nazareth:
~ > **October 21, 3 B.C. – April, 2 B.C.**
Their time in Bethlehem:
~ **May, 2 B.C. – December, 2 B.C.**

Lk. 2:39

And when they had
performed all things
according to the law of
the Lord, they returned
into Galilee, to their
own city Nazareth.

6. Honeymoon!



Their Honeymoon:
~ April, 3 B.C. to April, 2
B.C.

The wise men [Magi] arrived 15 months after the birth of Jesus to Bethlehem, and then, after the Magi left, Mary, Joseph and Jesus fled to Egypt.



Mt. 2:1

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men [Magoi] from the east to Jerusalem...



~ End of **December, 2 B.C.**

Mt. 2:13, 16

...the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt... Then Herod ...sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem ...from **two years old and under**, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.

In less than a month Herod had died and they went to Nazareth to live there.

~ February, 1 B.C.

Mt. 2:19-23

But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt... warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, he [Jesus] shall be called a Nazarene.



11. Manly presentation at the Temple of Jerusalem at 12 years old.

Lk. 2:42

And when he [Jesus] was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the **custom** [ethos] of the feast [heortes].*



~ September, 10 A.D.

Feast of

Trumpets: ~

September 11,
10 A.D.

Atonement: ~

September 21,
10 A.D., * **Feast**

of Tabernacles: ~
September 26 + 6
days, 10 A. D.

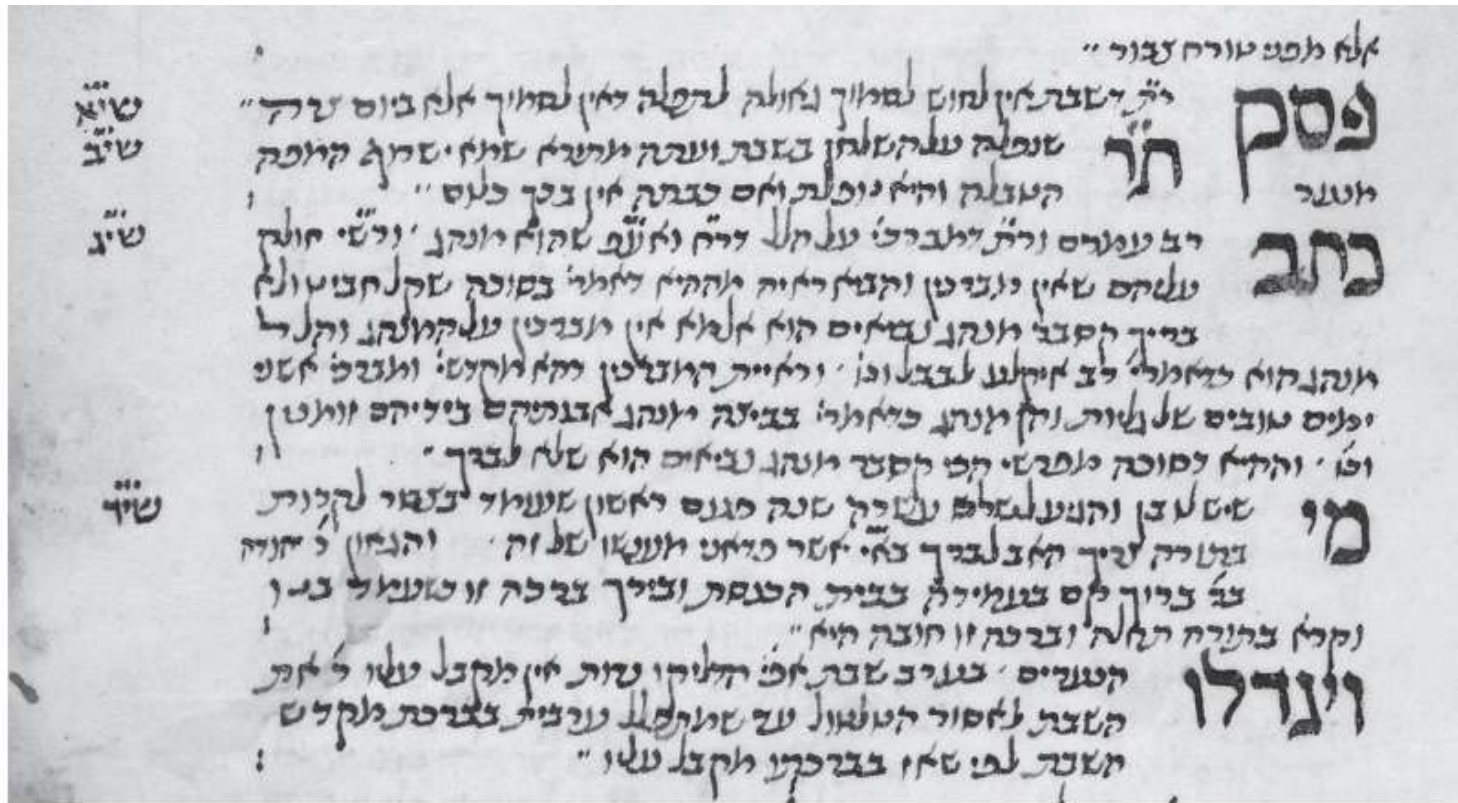
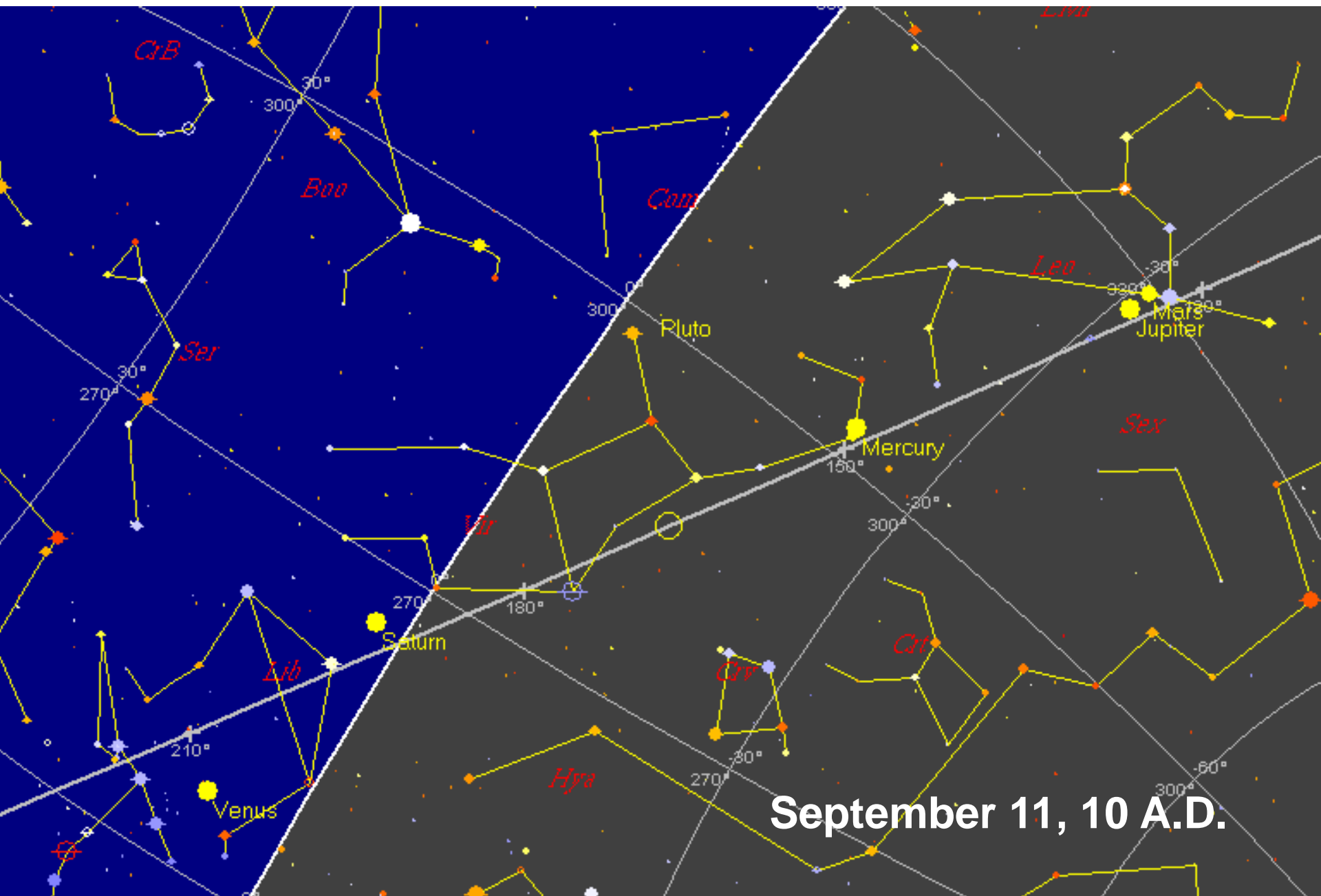
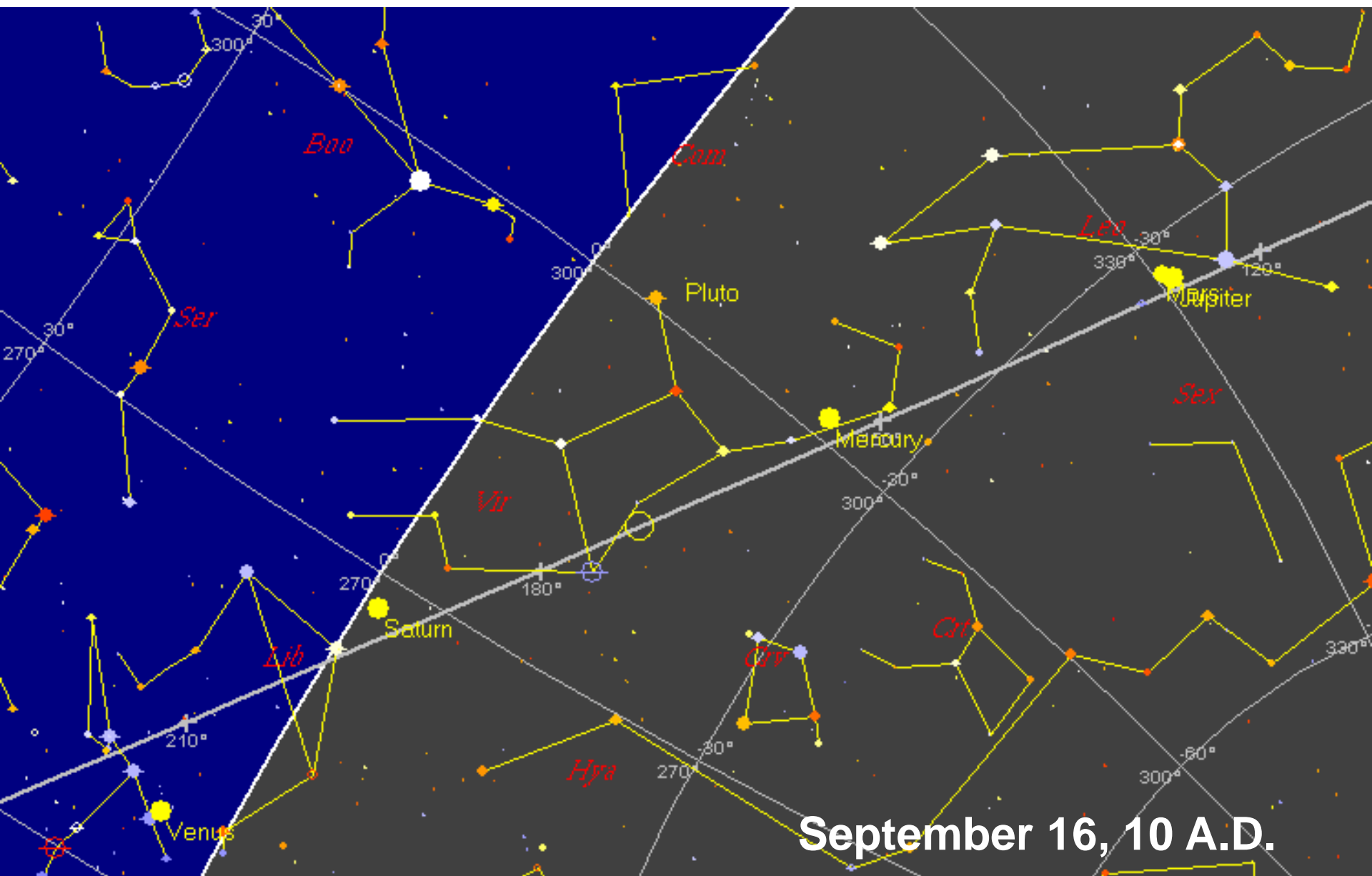


Fig. 1. Manuscript account of the earliest bar mitzvah synagogue ceremony containing a specific name (thirteenth century). Reproduced with permission from the Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford, Manuscript Opp Add 4° 127, fol. 62a. The illustration shows the top half of leaf 62a, and the account is in the third paragraph,

Hilton, M. **Bar Mitzvah: A History**. U. of Nebraska Press, 2014, 360 p.



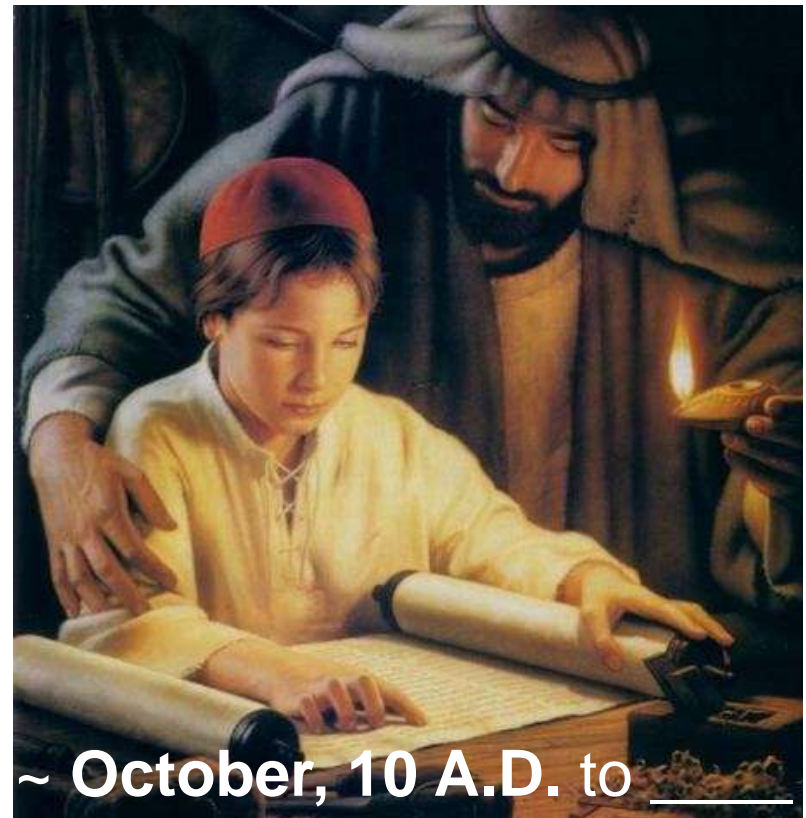
September 11, 10 A.D.



September 16, 10 A.D.

Lk. 2:51-52

And he [Jesus] went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.



Comparing the growth of Jesus with the growth of John the Baptist

Lk. 1:80

And the child [John the Baptist] grew, and **waxed strong in spirit**, and was in the deserts till the day of his shewing unto Israel.

Lk. 2:52

And **Jesus** increased in **wisdom** and **stature**, and in **favour** with God and man.



12. Water Baptism.



Mt. 3:13-17

Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John [the Baptist] ...And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

Mt. 4:1-11

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil [40 days]... Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him [Jesus].



Jesus starts gathering some of his first followers and Apostles.

“FOLLOW ME AND I WILL MAKE YOU FISHERS OF MEN”



Matthew
4:18-22

Jn. 1:37

And the two disciples [John and Andrew] heard him speak, and they followed Jesus [then Simon, Philip and Nathanael (Bartholomew)].

5. Wedding celebration!



Cana: ~ ____ to ____ A.D.

Jn. 2:1-2, 12

And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there: And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage... This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him. After this he went down to Capernaum, he, and his mother, and his brethren, and his disciples...



~ to A.D.

3. The token of Love...





The woman that lost one coin of ten, found it and celebrated with others!!!