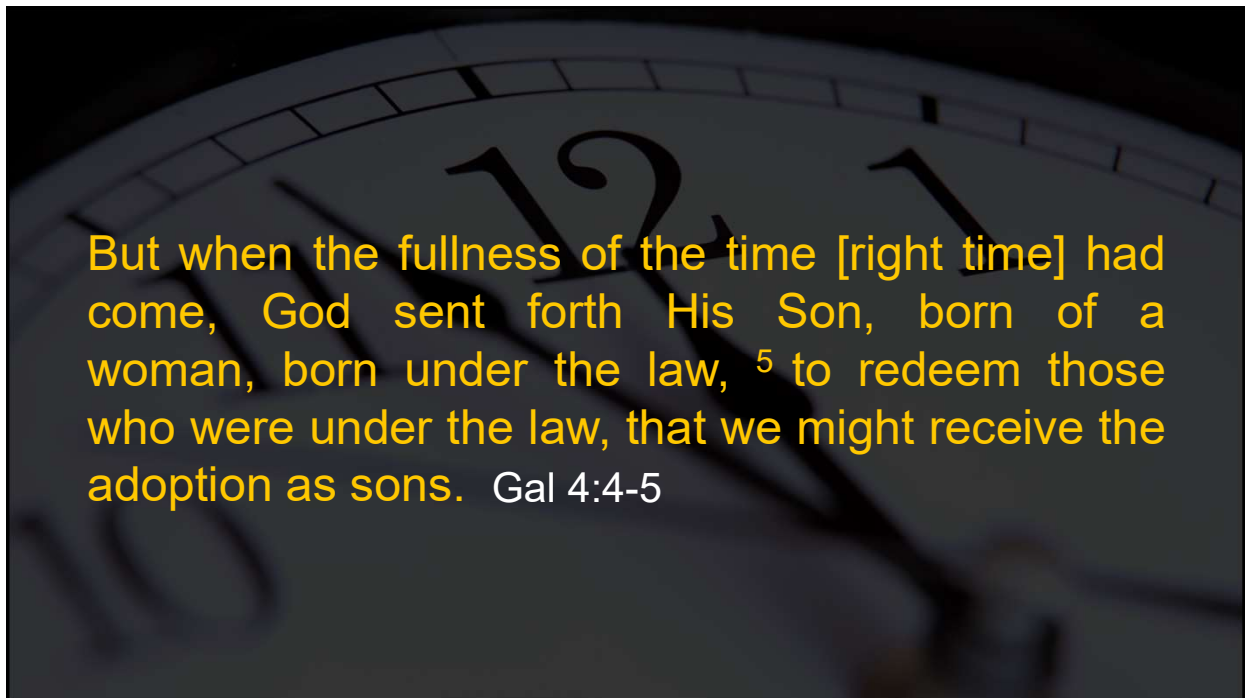
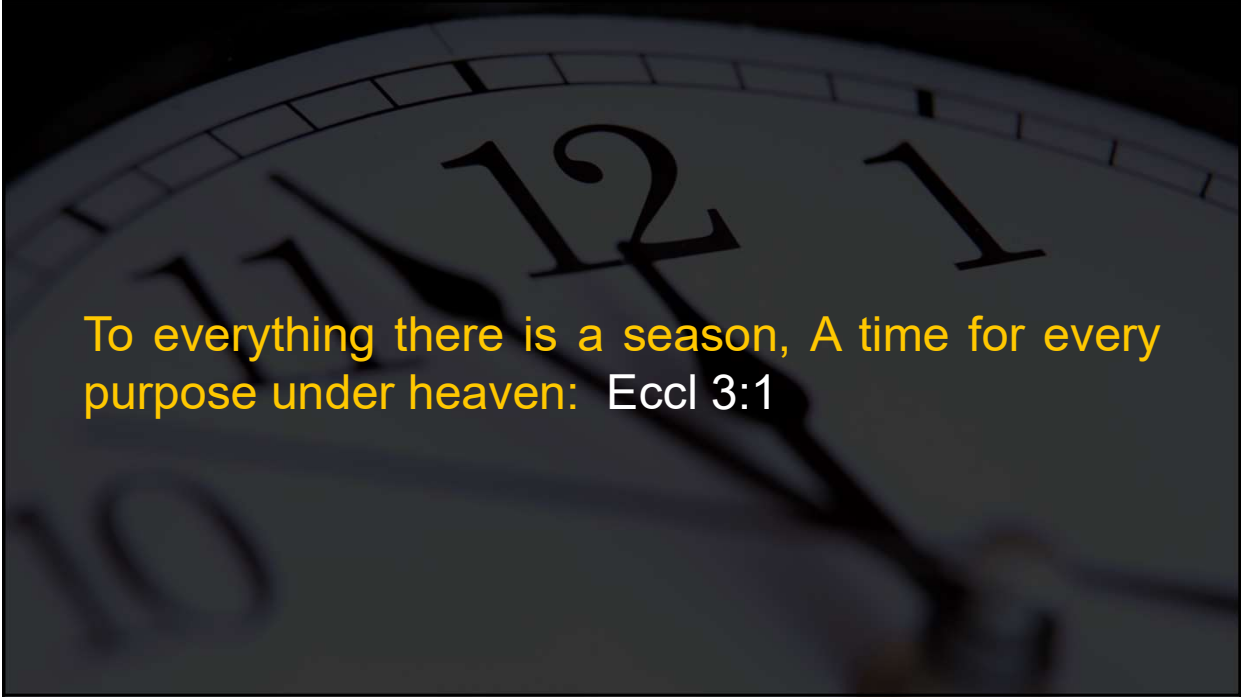




1



2



To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven: Eccl 3:1

3



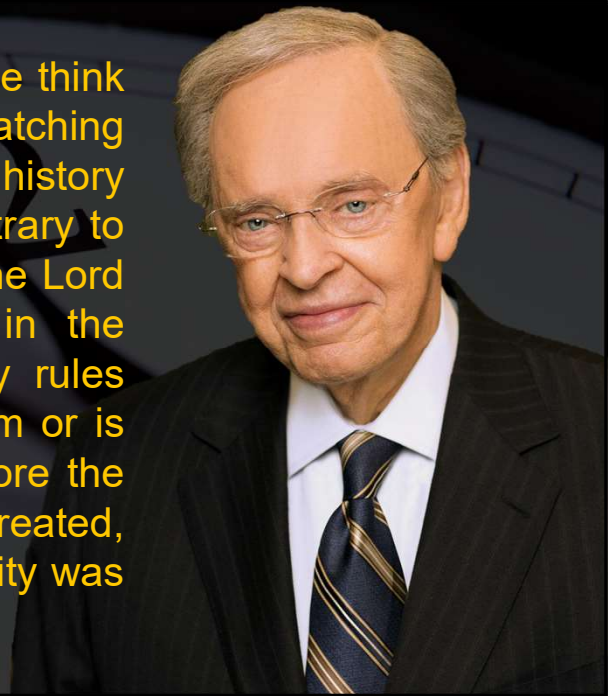
1. God measures time differently than we do

Ps 90:4 For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it is past, and like a watch in the night.

2 Pet 3:8 But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

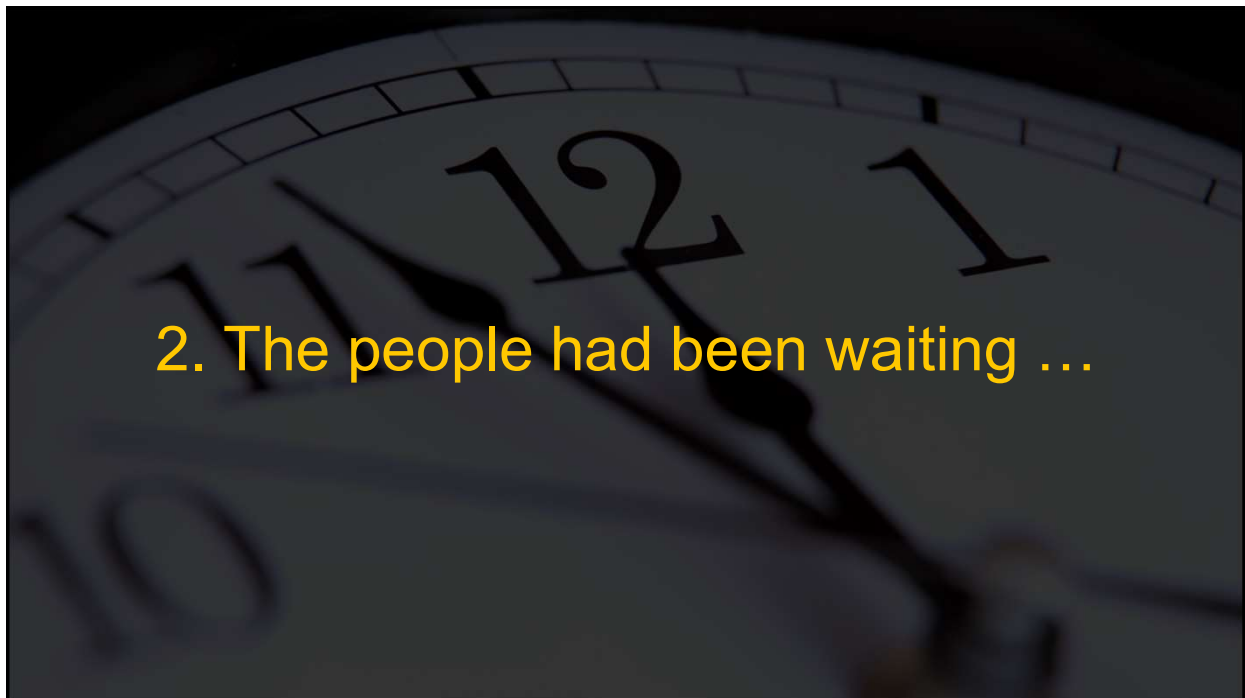
4

Charles Stanley: “Some people think that God is up in heaven watching and reacting as human history unfolds, but that notion is contrary to Scripture. Ps 103:19 says, ‘The Lord has established His throne in the heavens, and His sovereignty rules over all.’ Nothing surprises Him or is out of His control. In fact, before the heavens and earth were created, God’s plan to reconcile humanity was already in place (1 Pet 1:19-20)”

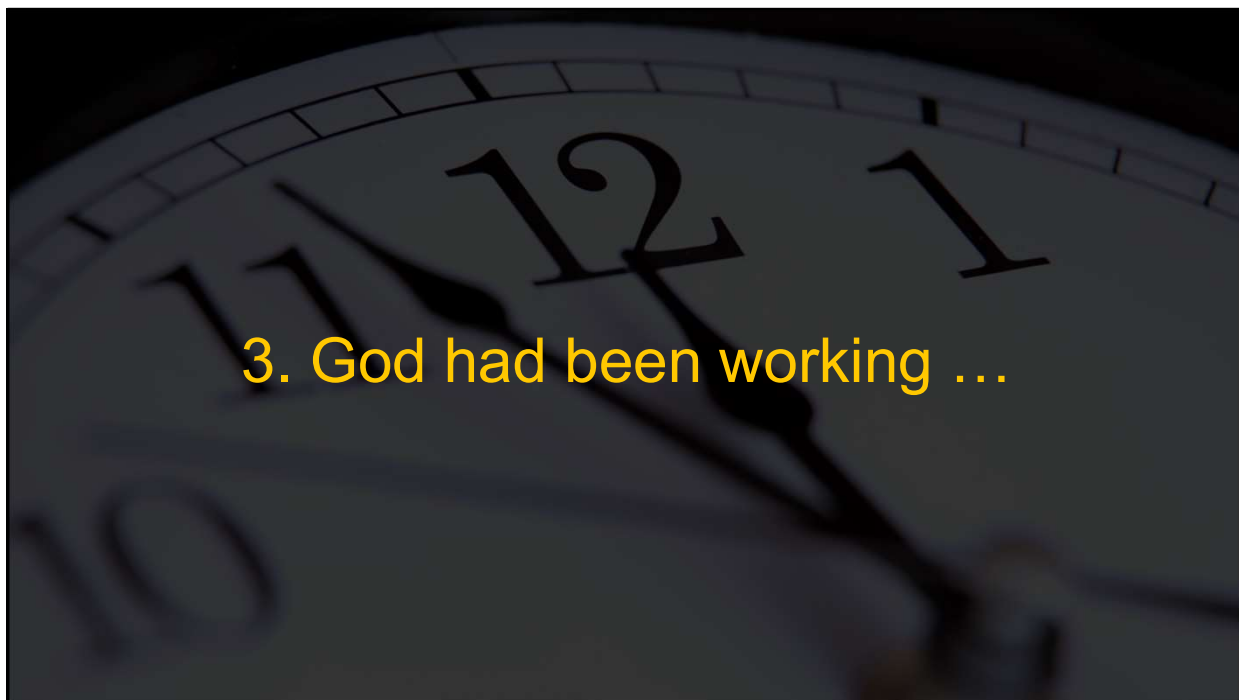


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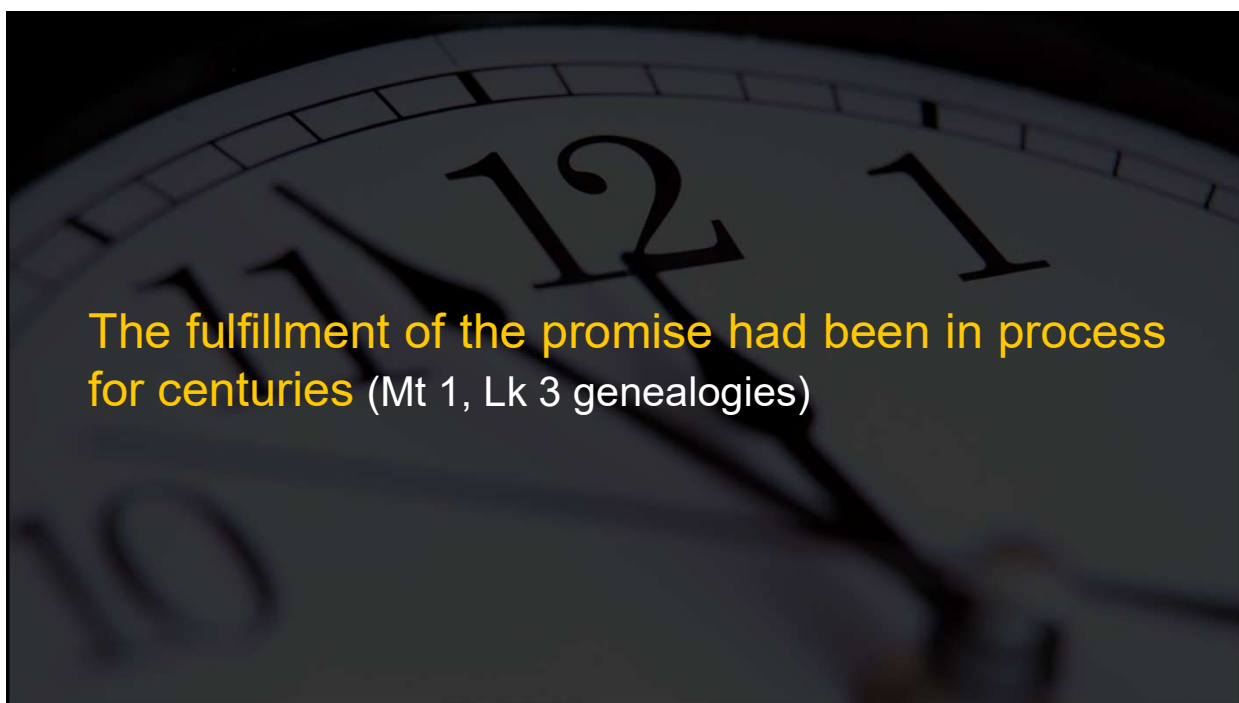
2. The people had been waiting ...



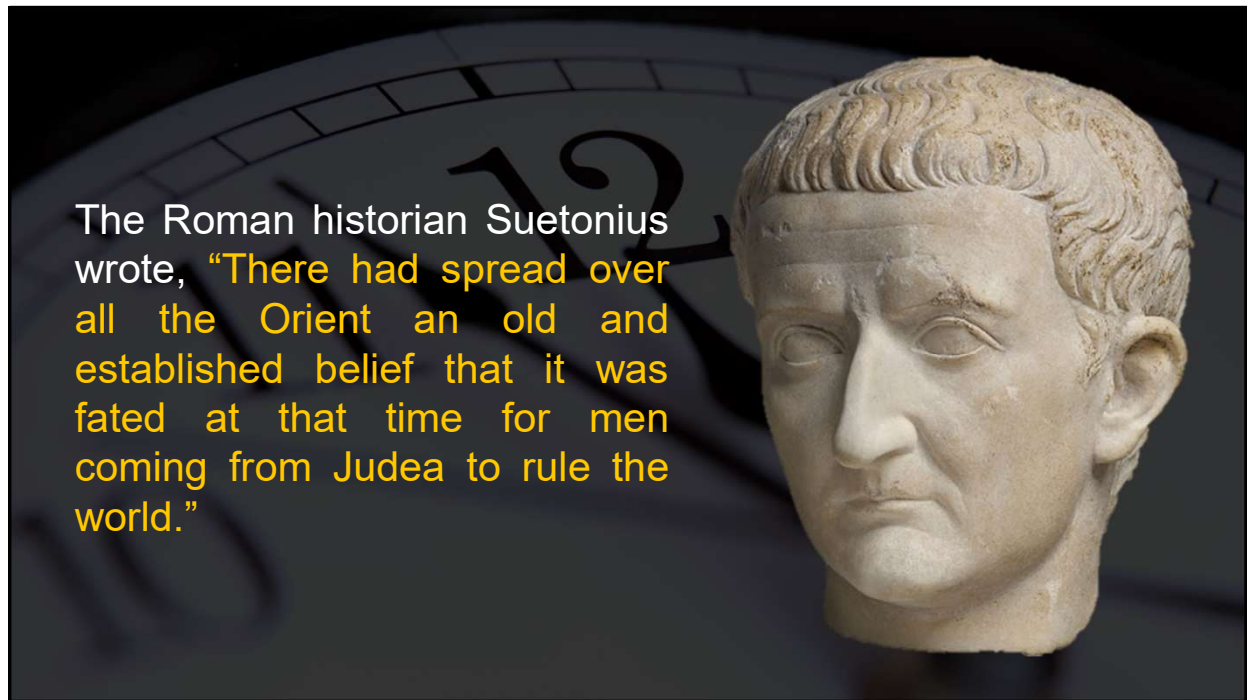
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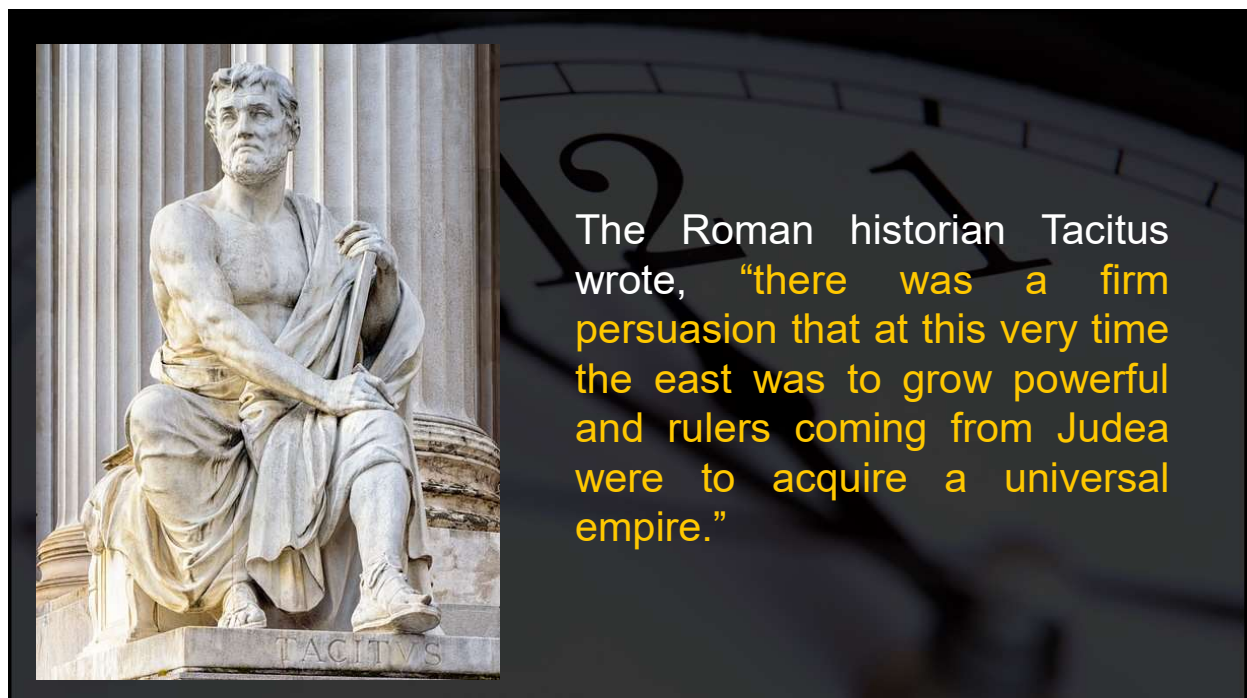


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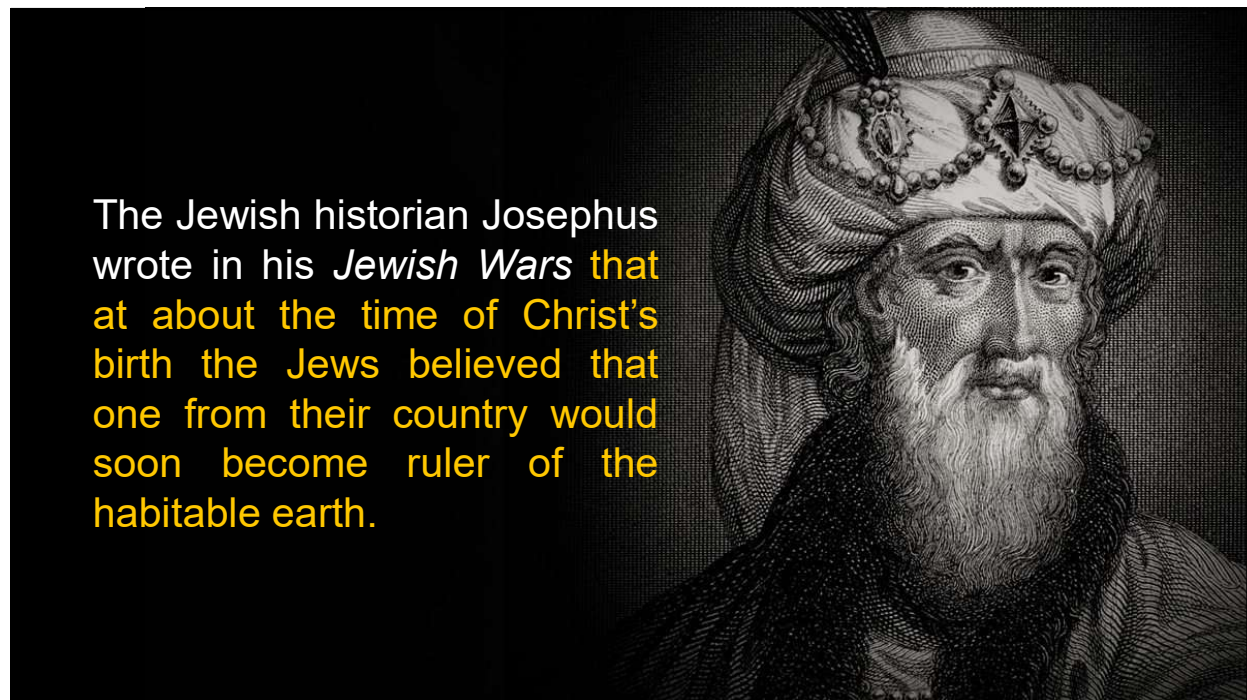
The Roman historian Suetonius wrote, “There had spread over all the Orient an old and established belief that it was fated at that time for men coming from Judea to rule the world.”

9

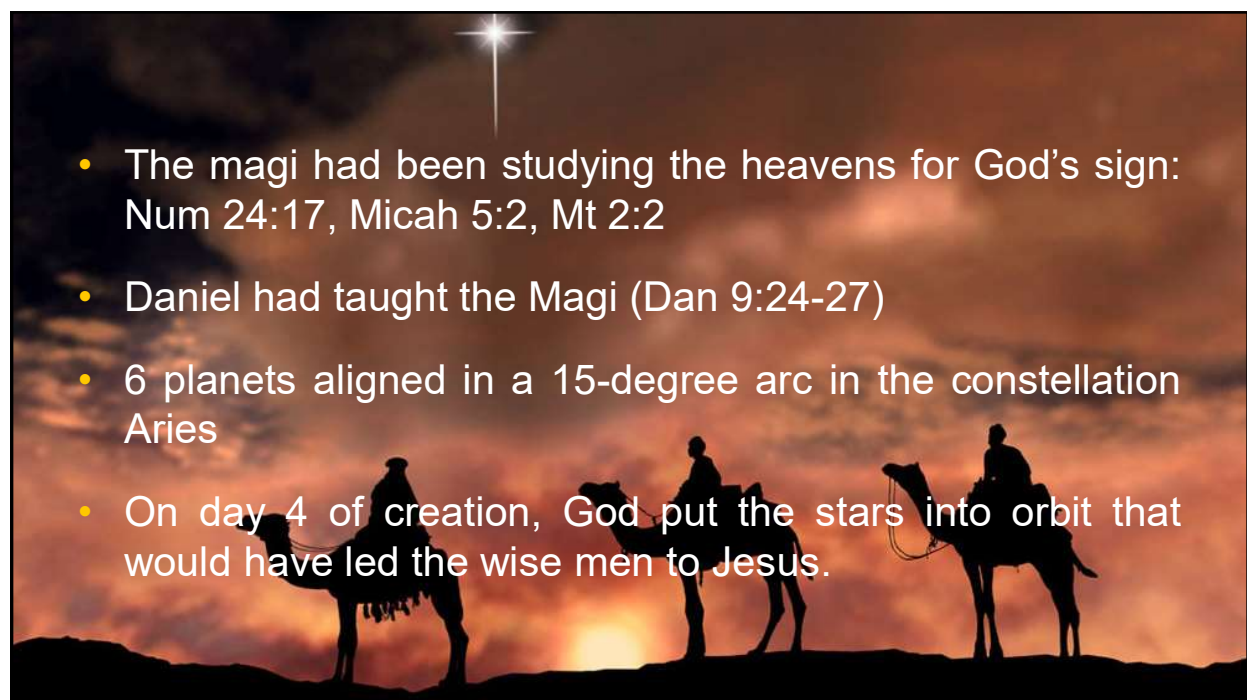


The Roman historian Tacitus wrote, “there was a firm persuasion that at this very time the east was to grow powerful and rulers coming from Judea were to acquire a universal empire.”

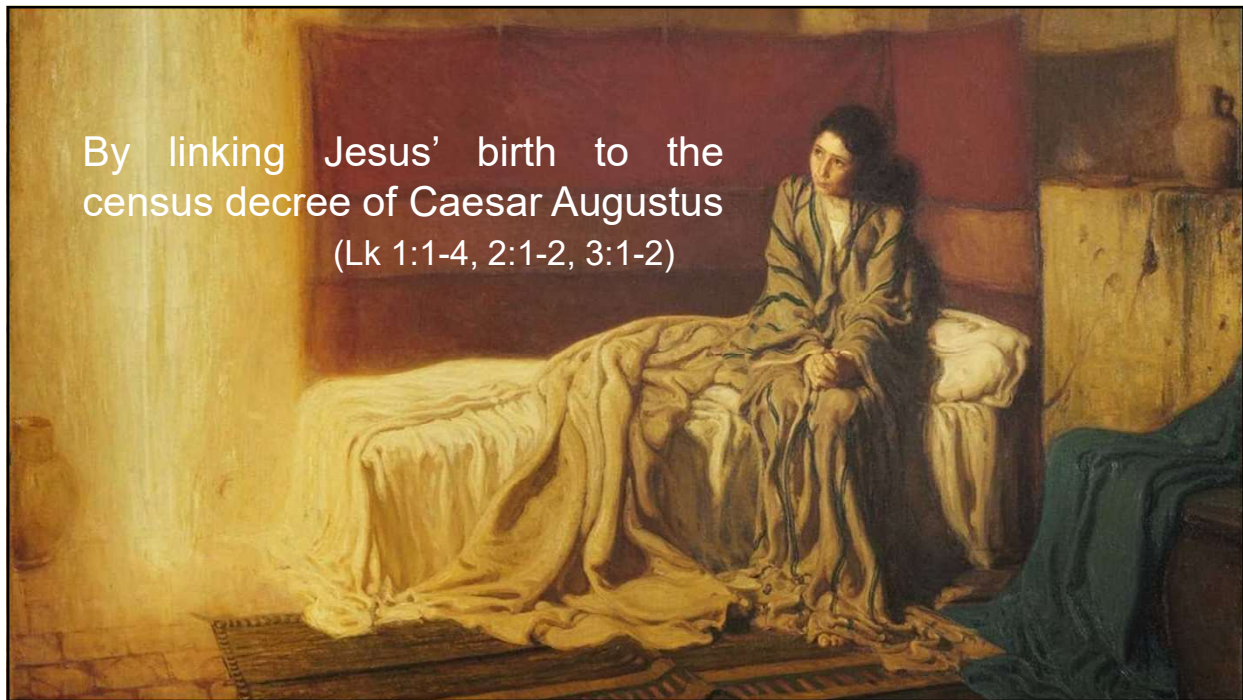
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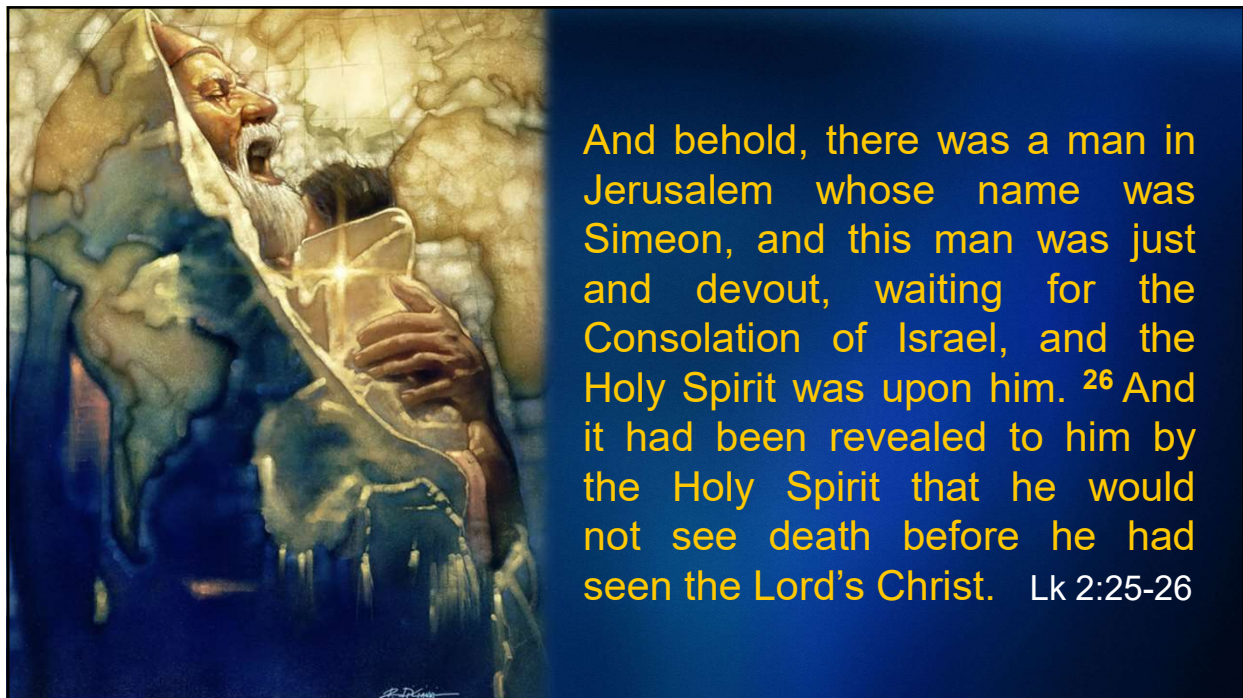
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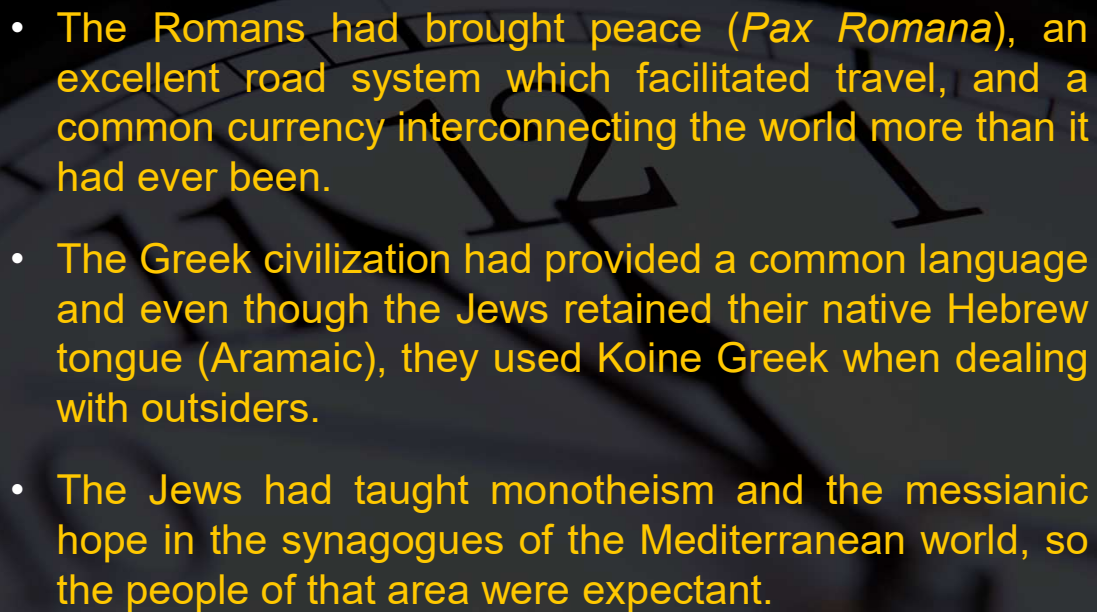


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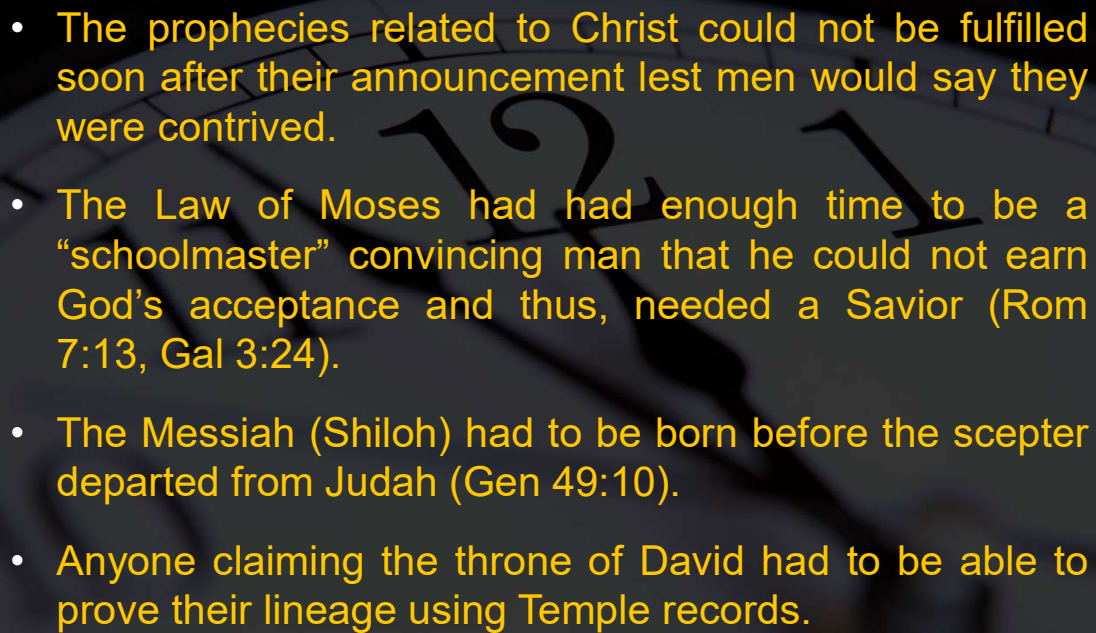


4. God's timing was perfect

15

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- The Romans had brought peace (*Pax Romana*), an excellent road system which facilitated travel, and a common currency interconnecting the world more than it had ever been.
 - The Greek civilization had provided a common language and even though the Jews retained their native Hebrew tongue (Aramaic), they used Koine Greek when dealing with outsiders.
 - The Jews had taught monotheism and the messianic hope in the synagogues of the Mediterranean world, so the people of that area were expectant.

16

- 
- The prophecies related to Christ could not be fulfilled soon after their announcement lest men would say they were contrived.
 - The Law of Moses had had enough time to be a “schoolmaster” convincing man that he could not earn God’s acceptance and thus, needed a Savior (Rom 7:13, Gal 3:24).
 - The Messiah (Shiloh) had to be born before the scepter departed from Judah (Gen 49:10).
 - Anyone claiming the throne of David had to be able to prove their lineage using Temple records.

17



5. God orders our steps

18

Ps 37:23 The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord, and He delights in his way.

40:2 He ... set my feet upon a rock, and established my steps.

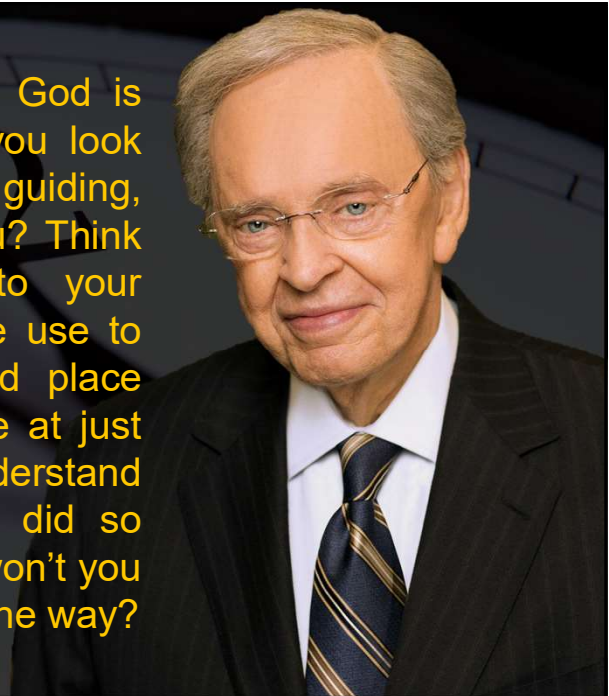
Ps 139:16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

39:4 "Lord, make me to know my end, and what is the measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am.

Mt 10:30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

19

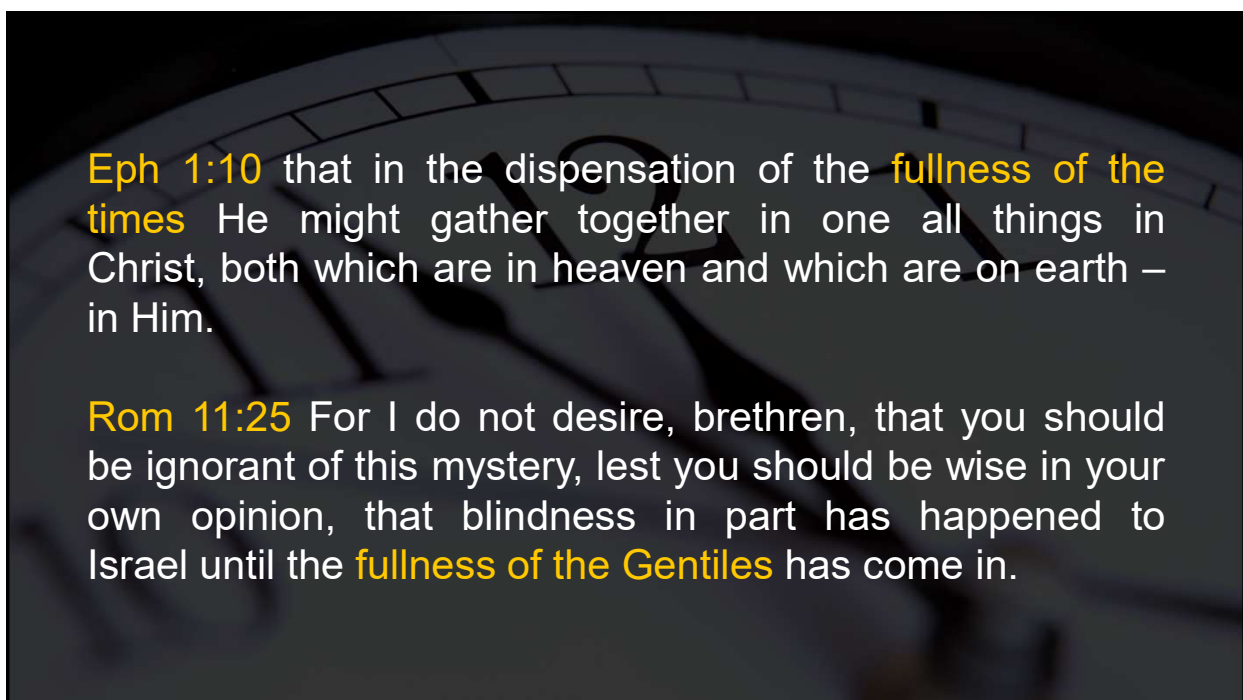
"Could you possibly doubt that God is also at work in your life? As you look back, can you trace His hand guiding, protecting, and providing for you? Think about the events that led to your salvation. What situation did He use to open your eyes? Did the Lord place certain people in the right place at just the right time to help you understand how to be saved? Since God did so much to bring you to salvation, won't you trust Him to lead you the rest of the way?"



20



21



22

