(*Continued from page 1*)

same as the shepherds. "But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being 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 shall be called a Nazarene." Matt. ii. 22, 23. If we read this alone, we should conclude that neither the parents or Christ were in Nazareth till they came back from Egypt. "And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, to a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary." Luke i. 26, 27. From this we learn that the parents lived in Nazareth long before this. Again, "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David,) to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger: because there was no room for them in the inn." Luke ii. 1—7. Here we learn that they went from Nazareth to Bethlehem where the child was born; and when the child was about six weeks old, they went up to Jerusalem. "And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord: (as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) 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." Luke ii. 22, 24. "Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a woman have conceived seed, and borne 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." Lev. xii. 2, 4. "Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast: it is mine." Ex xiii. 2. "That thou shalt set apart unto the Lord all that openeth the matrix, and every firstling that cometh of a beast which thou hast: the male shall be the Lord's. And every firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb; and if thou will not redeem it, then thou shalt break his neck: and all the firstborn of man among thy children shalt thou redeem." Ex. xiii. 12, 13. They returned from there to Nazareth, and thus we find Christ at Nazareth when he was six weeks old. Did the wise men reach Jerusalem before that time? "Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men." Matt. ii. 16. From this we learn, that the wise men did not reach Jerusalem until the child was between one and two years old. If the star had gone before them all the way from the land from whence they came, there would have been no need of their going to Herod to find out where the child was. If the child had been in Bethlehem, they would not have needed the second appearance of the star to guide them to where the child was, for Bethlehem was only six miles from Jerusalem, and in plain sight. See Smith's Bible Dictionary; but the star offers to guide them to the right place, and that was to Nazareth. "Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also. When they had heard the king, they departed: and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." Matt. ii. 7—10.

IASPIS.

An exchange says a new gas machine is being set up in the M. E. Church in Salem. It did not say whether it was being placed in the pulpit or not.

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