I. In Luke 1 and 2, the Old Testament flows into the New Testament.

 A. John the Baptist fulfills the mission of Elijah’s return before Messiah’s advent.

 1. Malachi 4:5,6

 2. Daniel 7:13,14; 8:16; 9:21

 3. Mary’s Magnificat is comprised of lyrics from the Old Testament.

 4. Luke 1:67ff. connects Christmas with many Old Testament promises.

 a. 1 Samuel 2:1

 b. Psa. 18:2

 c. Psa. 89:17; 132:17

 d. Ezekiel 29:21

 e. Ps. 106:10

 f. Micah 7:16-20

 g. Malachi 3:1

 h. Jeremiah 31:34; Malachi 4:2

 i. Isaiah 9:1,2; 59:8

II. In Luke 2, History Anchors Advent.

 A. Our belief is not based on a circular argument centered on the Bible.

 1. The early church had no New Testament; they had history and the Holy Spirit.

 2. “An empty tomb is there to prove my Savior lives…”

 B. This orientation is true not only for the New, but also for the Old Testament.

 1. The dates; the genealogies; the events are grounding our faith in history.

 2. God’s people are never asked to take a blind leap.

 3. Our faith is based in facts and in self-evident truth.

 C. The validity of history gives credence to the details given us by the testaments.

III. In the Holy Land we see the Holy Hand preparing history for the arrival of Jesus.

 A. We have the Greeks to thank for the universal language used to tell the message.

 B. We have the Romans to thank for unifying the world political system.

 C. What political tool did God use to fulfill Micah’s prophesy of Bethlehem? Taxation

IV. Let’s listen to the “Christmas Carols” included in Luke’s chapter 2 to “see” Christmas.

 A. Angels sing

 B. Anna and Simeon sing

 C. What are we seeing and singing regarding this moment in history?

**Angels from The Realms of Glory**

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| **1.** Angels from the realms of glory,Wing your flight o-er all the earth;Ye who sang creation’s story,Now proclaim Messiah’s birth.Come and worship; Come and worship,Worship Christ, the newborn King!**2.** Shepherds in the fields abiding,Watching o’er your flocks by night,God with man is now residing,Yonder shines the infant Light.Come and worship; Come and worship,Worship Christ, the newborn King! | **3.** Sages, leave your contemplations,Brighter visions beam afar;Seek the great desire of nations,Ye have seen His natal star.Come and worship; Come and worship,Worship Christ, the newborn King!**4.** Saints, before the altar bending,Watching long in hope and fear,Suddenly the Lord descending,In His temple shall appear.Come and worship, Come and worship,Worship Christ, the newborn King!  |