

The Five Songs of Christmas

1. Magnificat, sung by Mary (Luke 1:46-55)
2. Benedictus, sung by Zechariah (Luke 1:68-79)
3. Gloria in Excelsis Deo, sung by angels (Luke 2:14)
4. Nunc Dimittis, sung by Simeon (Luke 2:29-32)
5. Anna's Song (Luke 2:36-38)

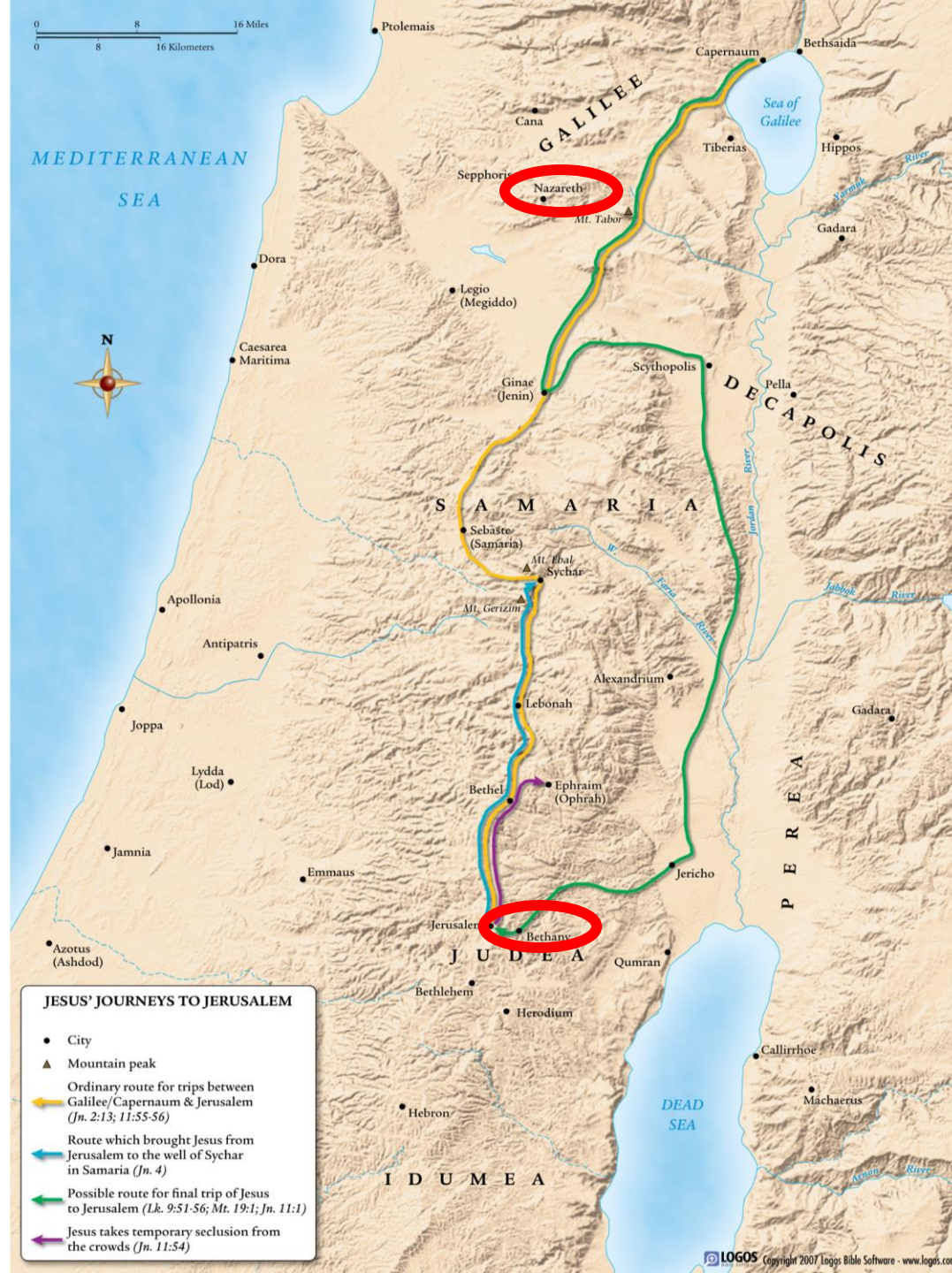


The Love of Christmas

Luke 1:39-56



Nazareth to Judea







“Glorifies/Magnifies”

Megalunei

1. To enlarge, make great
2. To cause to be held in high esteem



“Mindful”

Epiblepo

1. To look upon; to turn the eyes upon
2. To show loving concern for someone



HESED

Used 240 times in the Old Testament.

1. Loving-kindness; steadfast love; grace; mercy; faithfulness; goodness; devotion.
2. The consistent, ever-faithful, relentless, constantly-pursuing, lavish, extravagant, unrestrained, furious love of Father God!

Hesed

“The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you but will rejoice over you with singing.”

Zephaniah 3:17



Fear and Joy

“Fear and love are two different languages preferred by two different Christian camps – perhaps two different theologies. The one camp speaks of love and grace and never of fearing God. And the other camp seems angered by this and emphasizes how afraid of God we should be...(but) the gospel both frees us from fear and gives us fear. It frees us from our crippling fears, giving us instead a most delightful, happy, and wonderful fear.”

Michael Reeves, “Rejoice and Tremble”

'Course he
isn't safe.
But he's
good. He's
the King, I
tell you.'



The Upside-Down Kingdom

“The powerful and the wealthy believe the world belongs to them, and they can do whatever they like with the powerless and the poor. The sad truth is that in this evil world they can do that and more. However, God is promising that his Son will reverse these terrible injustices, but on this issue the attention does indeed go to the eschaton (the “end” of all things), for this will not occur until the second coming.”

Grant Osborne, “Luke: Verse by Verse”



THRIVE FARMINGTON VALLEY

THRIVE Farmington Valley conference is a partnership between Farmington Valley churches and Vision New England.

At THRIVE you can gather new ideas while collaborating with and being inspired by passionate people, joining fellow Christians for worship, keynote speakers, and breakout sessions focused on blessing our churches!

Join us for our next THRIVE Farmington Valley on Friday and Saturday, February 2-3, 2024 at Valley Community Baptist Church in Avon, CT.

[Register here!](#)



hesed

the astonishing kindness of God



hesed

the astonishing kindness of God

The love that sees you and won't let you go