



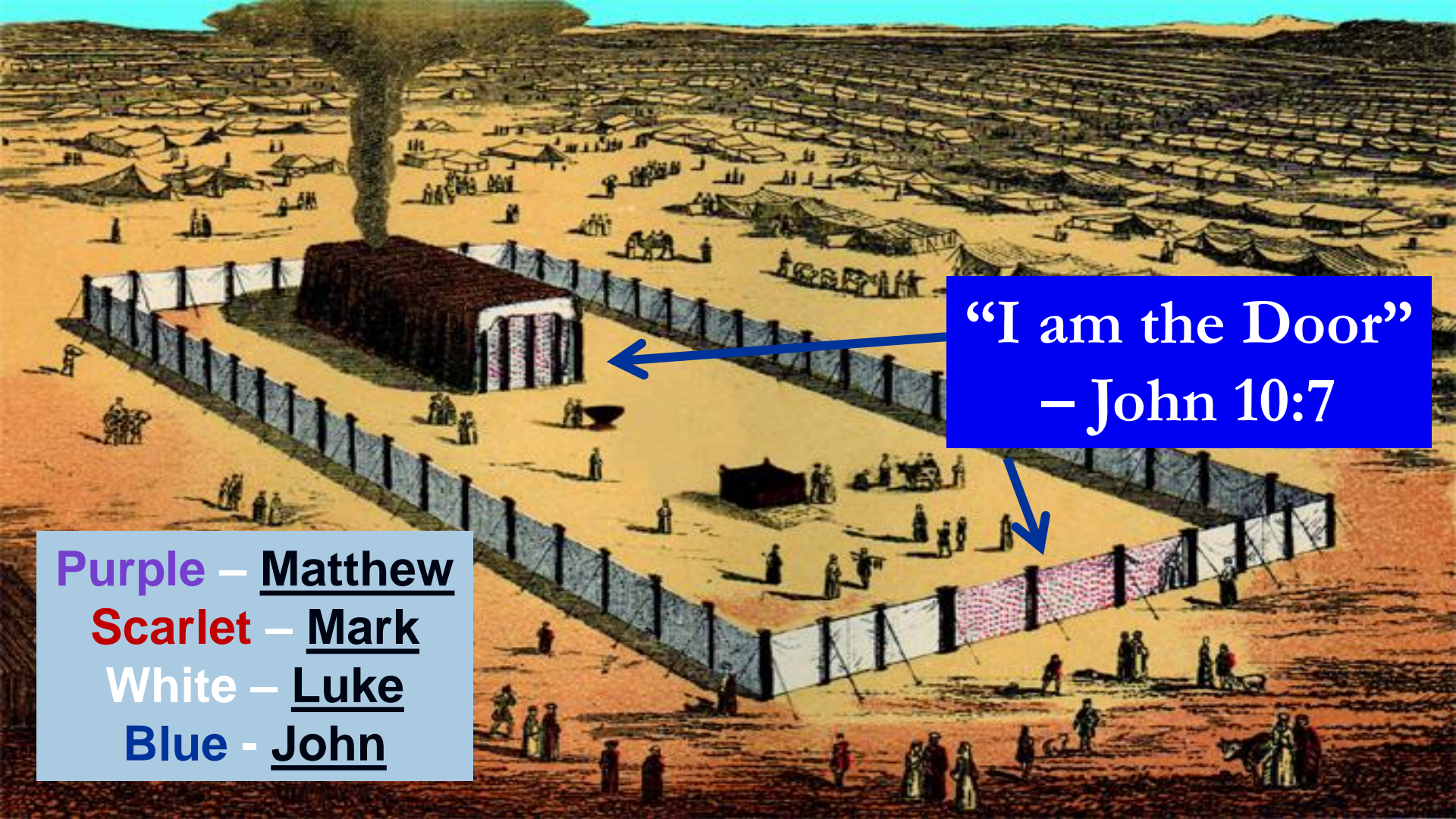
# CHRIST AND CHRISTMAS

Lessons from the Life of Mary

# The Gospels: humanity and divinity of Jesus

- Portray Jesus as His followers saw Him
- Preach the “good news” – Salvation is here!
- Jesus is King – Matthew (to reign in life)
  - Jesus a suffering servant – Mark (obedience)
  - Jesus the son of Man – Luke (relationships)
- Jesus is Divine – John (children of God)





**“I am the Door”  
– John 10:7**

**Purple – Matthew**  
**Scarlet – Mark**  
**White – Luke**  
**Blue – John**

# Genealogies of Christ - *fulfilled prophecy*

*Servants don't need a genealogy (Mark); God can't have one (John)*

## Matthew's Genealogy

- Joseph's descent from Abraham
- After David, God's choice Solomon
- Lists 42 generations (six 7's)
- Christ the 66<sup>th</sup> name (w/ additions)
- Jesus was the legal son of Joseph

## Luke's Genealogy

- Mary's line of ascent to God
- After David, legal choice – Nathan
- Lists 77 names – God to Christ
- Christ the 77<sup>th</sup> name
- Jesus was the natural son of Mary

# Jesus the Messiah; fulfilled Prophecy

- Matthew's Genealogy – *fulfillment of God's prophecy regarding the Messiah being of the Royal Line from Abraham and David*
- Luke's Genealogy – *fulfillment of God's prophecy of the Messiah from the line of obscure deliverers who humble the proud and are grafted into the Royal Line of Abraham and David*



# God's acts of Mercy in the Natural Line

- Zerrubabel – grandson of King Jehoiachin from line of David – rebuilds temple on Mt. Moriah
- Nahum – an obscure individual probably named after the great prophet (Ninevah's judgment)
- Mattathias – the great deliverer of the Jews in the Maccabee wars – high priest at 145 yrs old (173)
- Others like Mattathat, Mattathias, Maath named after the hero – a line of deliverers!

# Mary honored God in her Heart

- Daughter of Heli, granddaughter of Mattathat
- Miriam (Hebrew), Mary (Greek – from Mariam and Maria) – after Moses' sister?
- Luke 1:38 – *Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word*
- Elizabeth – *the mother of my Lord should come to me?* (baby leapt in her womb)

# Jewish (OT) Law elevated Women

- Buy, sell, own property, make contracts
- A keeper of the home – “small sanctuary”
- She could learn Hebrew and study *Torah*
- Strong connection with extended family
- A sense of community in Nazareth – everyone would have known everyone



# The Virgin Birth

- An angelic messenger announces it to Mary
- Mary was a virgin – probably 13 or 14 yrs old
- Jesus was supernaturally conceived – genetic design from the Father, carried by Mother
- Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14, 9:6-7; Micah 5:2 all prophesy about the virgin birth and a pre-existent Christ! (odds 1 out of 1,000 trillion)

# The Incarnation – *the only begotten*

- *Monogenesis* – only generated, not created
- Angels (Satan), Adam, are all “sons of God”
- Christ is “eternally generated” – John 1:14, 18; 3:16, 18; 1<sup>ST</sup> John 4:9-10 – first resurrected!
- 1647 Westminster Confession - *The Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Ghost eternally proceeding from the Father and the Son.*

# Mary's Song – the Magnificat!

Luke 1:46-55

*Rejoicing at  
giving birth  
to the  
Messiah*

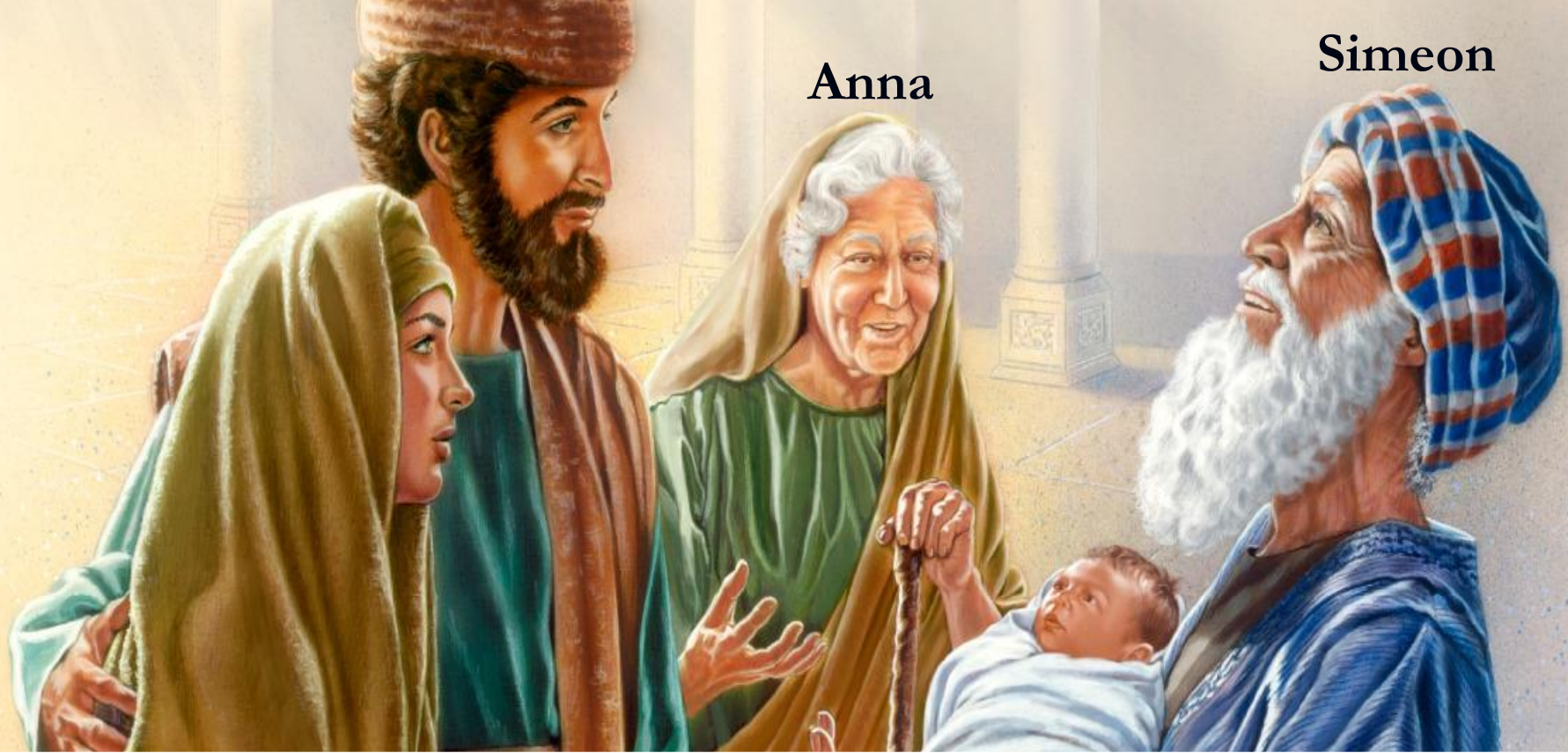
*Glorifying  
God for His  
power and  
mercy*

*Thanking  
God who  
lifts up the  
humble*

*Exalting  
God for  
fulfilling  
prophecy*







Anna

Simeon

*Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. – Luke 2:34-35*



# Mary was a good Mother



*Son, why have you done this to us!  
Look, your father and I have sought you  
anxiously... but His mother kept all  
these things in her heart...*

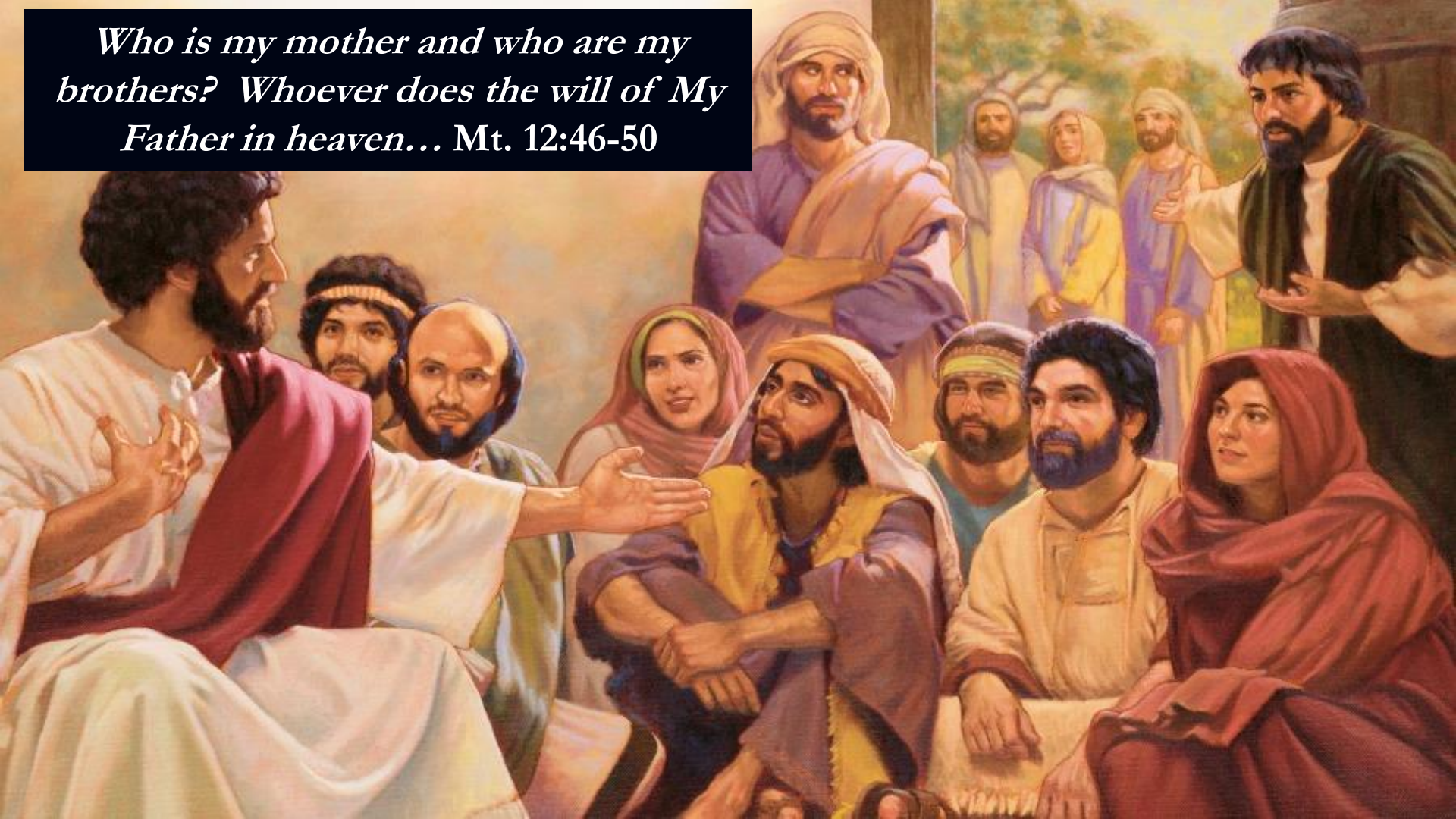
Luke 2:48, 51

# Jesus' Family

- Joseph and Mary had other sons/daughters
  - James – converted / leader / book of James
  - Joseph – we do not know if he was converted
  - Judas (Jude) – a believer, author of book of Jude
  - Simon – we don't know if he became a follower
  - Sisters – so he had at least two unnamed sisters
- Jesus' family probably attempted to steer, adjust or curtail his ministry in some way



*Who is my mother and who are my brothers? Whoever does the will of My Father in heaven... Mt. 12:46-50*



# Mary the first Female disciple of Jesus

## Male Disciples

- Peter (Simon, a natural leader)
- Andrew (brother of Peter)
- James (older than James the less)
- John (brother of James)
- Nathanael (Bartholomew, nobility)
- James, the less (or younger)
- Thaddeus (Jude, brother of James)
- Matthew (Levi, tax collector)
- Philip (a missionary evangelist)
- Simon the Zealot (a nationalist)
- Thomas (Didymus, the “doubter”)
- Judas (Iscariot, a radical nationalist)

## Female Disciples

- Mary (mother of Jesus)
- Mary (of Magdala)
- Mary (mother of James the less)
- Mary (Jesus’ Aunt, wife of Clopus)
- Salome (mother of James and John)
- Joanna (wife of Chuza, a court official of Herod)
- Susanna
- The (wife) of Peter
- The mother of Peter’s wife
- “Many others” – Luke 8:1-3; 23:49; 24:10-12; Mt. 27:55-56; John 19:26





*When Jesus therefore saw  
His mother, and the  
disciple whom He loved  
standing by, He said to His  
mother,  
‘Woman, behold your son!’  
Then he said to the  
disciple, ‘behold your  
mother!’ – John 19:26-27*