**What is the real birthday of Jesus Christ?**

The Bible tells us in Matt 2:1 that Herod the Great was alive at the time of the birth of Jesus. We also know that Herod gave orders to kill all the boys that were two years old and under,(Matt. 2:16). Joseph took Mary and Jesus and escaped to Egypt and stayed there until Herod died,( Matt 2:14).

Herod died on January 13, 1 BC. according to Roman history.

Luke 1:5 says at the time of Herod there was a priest named Zechariah who belonged to the priestly division if Abijah and his wife Elizabeth, who was also a descendant of Aaron. In verse 7, it says they were both along in years and Elizabeth was barren.

Luke, v-8-11 says that Zechariah’s priestly division was serving in the Temple and Zechariah was chosen to burn the incense and an angel of the Lord appeared to him and told him his prayers were answered and he and Elizabeth were going to have a son and to name him John. (This is important as to timing the birth of Jesus.)

There are 24 courses of priests according to 1 Chronicles 24. Abijah’s course was the 8th course. We know that when the Temple was destroyed in August 5, 70 AD, the 1st course of priests had just taken office. Tracking back from that time the 8th course of priests ended their duties on July 13, 3 BC., Tamuz on the Jewish calendar, (Zechariah’s course). Accordingly the birth of John the Baptist would be 280 days later which would be about April 19-20, 2 BC., the Jewish month of Nisan. (That would also be during the Feast of Unleavened Bread) which began on April 15th.) We know the birth of Jesus would have been six months after the birth of John, (Luke 1:36), which would then of course be in the Jewish month of Tishri, (fall of 2 BC.). Tishri 1, (which would be our month of September 29), which was Rosh Hashanah, the Feast of Trumpets. This could very well be the birthday of Jesus Christ. He would then tabernacle with us until His death on Passover, the 14th day of Nisan 32 AD.