

Sacred Reflection On The Census

Read Luke 2:1-7

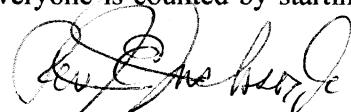
One more thing to do, right? One more letter to open, form to fill out and mail to send out, right? You don't need anything else to add to your already too long list of Time Consuming, Cumbersome and Uncomfortable things thrust upon you to take care of, right? What will it gain anyway is your answer, right?

Well consider Joseph and Mary for just a moment. They were ordered to fill out a census in the first century by an edict of Caesar Augustus. That meant Joseph had to put his already nine month pregnant wife on his donkey for a very long ride. *How uncomfortable?* (Pregnant wife on a donkey and tired husband by foot). This ride of over 80 miles was from Nazareth to Bethlehem because Bethlehem was Joseph's home town. - *How time consuming?* That also meant leaving his home and carpentry business for months. *How financially oppressive?*

Yet I am so glad they did, and you should be too. Why, because when they Committed themselves to be counted they became Conduits connecting Cosmic Capital to their Community. *Jesus brings more than enough of whatever we need.*

When they enlisted themselves to being Enumerated they enlarged the number and quality of representation advocating for their community. *With Jesus, Heaven became their Advocate.* Beloved, when they registered for the Census that act Reclaimed the greatest Resource any community could Reside with it - Jesus!

So when that Census form arrives in your mail box please remember that those 10 questions that will take only 10 minutes, will impact you for the next 10 years. Please remember that by committing to being counted you will bring much needed capital into your community (over \$400 billion dispersed because of Census data). By being enumerated you enlarge representation advocating for your community in Congress. By filling out and returning the form you affect the redistricting of your community in your communities favor. Please let us all make sure everyone is counted by starting with our own home!



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