

RUSSELL SANDERS

12-21-2023

BEHOLD THE LAMB PART 2

THE MIGDAL `EDER

The lambs for the temple sacrifices were specially raised from genetically pure lines and were without blemish. They were separated from all the other sheep in a special sheepfold on the outskirts of Bethlehem. The sheepfold was called “the tower of the flock” which means “Migdal `Eder” in Hebrew.

Not just any shepherds were allowed to care for these lambs. Special “priestly” shepherds were assigned to their care. When a young lamb was born, the shepherds would wrap it in swaddling clothes and lay it in a stone manger. As the lambs grew, they would be taken from the Migdal `Eder (Tower of the Flock) near Bethlehem to Jerusalem to be given in the temple sacrifice.

Jesus was born to be the sacrificial lamb for Passover. His birthplace was prophesied by Micah as the city of Bethlehem and more specifically at the Migdal `Eder, the Tower of the Flock where all sacrificial lambs were taken after birth.

Micah 5:2 (NKJV) says, ***“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the one to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old (eternal), from everlasting.”*** This identified Bethlehem as Messiah’s city of birth.

Micah 4:8 identifies the specific location at Bethlehem where Messiah would be born. It says, ***“And you, O tower of the flock, (Migdal `Eder) the stronghold of the daughter of Zion to you shall it come, even the former dominion shall come, the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.”***

Jesus’ birthplace was prophesied by Micah 700 years before His birth.

Tomorrow we will look at some interesting details about that birth and what happened at the location.