

Luke 2:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

Analysis

The phrase 'while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered' emphasizes divine timing—Mary gave birth not during travel but after arrival in Bethlehem. The passive 'were accomplished' indicates fulfillment of natural gestation period while subtly pointing to fulfillment of divine purpose. This wording suggests God's sovereign control over timing—Jesus born neither too early nor too late, but exactly when and where prophecy specified. The natural development of pregnancy serves God's supernatural purposes. The simplicity of this statement belies the cosmic significance of the moment—the eternal Son taking on human flesh through normal human birth.

Historical Context

That Mary's labor began after arriving in Bethlehem fulfilled Micah 5:2 precisely. Had birth occurred en route, prophecy would have been unfulfilled. God's timing coordinated human biology, Roman governmental decree, and ancient prophecy perfectly.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does God coordinate natural processes with prophetic fulfillment?
2. What does the perfect timing of Jesus's birth teach about God's sovereignty?
3. How does the passive voice 'were accomplished' point to divine orchestration?

Interlinear Text

ἐγένετο	δὲ	ἐν	τῷ	εἶναι	αὐτῇ	ἐκεῖ	ἐπλήσθησαν
so it was	And	that while	G3588	were	that she	there	were accomplished
G1096	G1161	G1722		G1511	G846	G1563	G4130
αἱ	ἡμέραι	τοῦ	τεκεῖν	αὐτῇν			
G3588	the days	G3588	should be delivered	that she			
	G2250		G5088	G846			

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 33:11 (Parallel theme): The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

Proverbs 19:21 (Parallel theme): There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand.

Luke 1:57 (Parallel theme): Now Elisabeth's full time came that she should be delivered; and she brought forth a son.

Micah 5:2 (Parallel theme): But thou, Beth-lehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.