

Jesus Is Born

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1-2; Matthew 1-2

MEMORY VERSE: For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

CHARACTERS: Mary, Joseph, shepherds, Wise Men, baby Jesus

Have you ever received a gift? When someone gives you a gift they show that they really care about you. Before time began God had a plan to save us from our sins. God gave us a gift. The Bible says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

When God decided it was time He sent His Son, Jesus, from Heaven to earth as a gift to be our Savior. God's gift was not wrapped in a pretty package but was wrapped in strips of cloth and laid in a manger. This is how it happened.

God chose a young virgin girl named Mary to be Jesus' mother. Mary received a visit from an angel named Gabriel. Gabriel told Mary, "Mary, you have found favor with God. You will give birth to a son and name him Jesus and He will be the Son of God."

Mary was happy to be chosen! She was engaged to be married to Joseph, a carpenter. Mary told Joseph what the angel had said. Then Gabriel visited Joseph and told him all that Mary had said was true.

So Mary and Joseph were married. They traveled to Bethlehem to pay their taxes and while they were there, it came time for the baby to be born. There was no room in the inn so they had to stay in a stable. This is where the baby, Jesus was born. This baby was God's gift to us!

While this was happening, an angel appeared to some shepherds who were tending their sheep in the field. The angel said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news! Today in Bethlehem a Savior has been born to you. He is Christ the Lord! You will find the baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.

The shepherds left their sheep and went to Bethlehem to see the baby. They hurried to the stable and found Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. When they saw Him they bowed down and worshipped Him. Then they left to spread the news of Christ's birth.

Jesus Is Born (cont.)

Some time later, Magi or Wise Men came from the east to Jerusalem to find Jesus. They had seen a new star in the sky that meant a new king had been born. They asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?" They were told that Jesus was born in Bethlehem. So they followed the star until stopped over the place where the child was.

The Bible says that when they came into the house, they saw the child Jesus and His mother Mary. Then, they bowed down and worshipped the Christ child. They opened their treasures and gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

What a special gift! And this gift can be yours if you reach out and receive it! How can you receive Jesus? Admit you are a sinner and need a Savior. Believe that Jesus is God's Son and He came from Heaven to die on the cross for you. Trust in Him to be your personal Savior.

God will give you the gift of eternal life in Heaven with Jesus!!