

Happy  Christmas!





Millions

of people around  
the world celebrate

Christmas on the 25th of

December. There is feasting,

Christmas trees, glittering lights,

Santa, reindeer, presents, decorations,

a baby in a feeding trough, etc. What a  
strange assortment! What's it all about?

Is it just another cultural festival or is

it really from God, based on

truth?

Christmas is the Christian celebration of  
the birth of Jesus Christ. History shows  
he was born 2000 years ago. Since then  
many different traditions have sprung up.  
What then is the real heart of Christmas?  
Here is the account of what happened as  
recorded accurately in the Bible.



## Angel

God sent the special angel Gabriel to a virgin named Mary. He said to her, "Greetings. You have found favour with God. You will conceive and bear a son. You will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. His kingdom will have no end."

# Mary

Mary was afraid and did not understand. "How can this be?" she asked. "I'm not even married yet."

The angel answered, "The child will be born by the power of the Spirit of God. For this reason he will be called the Son of God."

Now Mary understood. This child would not be from a physical relationship. This baby would be a unique miracle.



# Joseph



Mary was engaged to a good man, a carpenter, named Joseph. When he heard that Mary was expecting a baby, he became distressed and made plans to break the engagement. Then an angel of God spoke to him in a dream, "Don't be afraid to marry Mary because the baby in her has been conceived by the Spirit of God. She will bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus because he is **the one who will rescue people from their sins.**" Now the purpose of Jesus' life was also revealed.



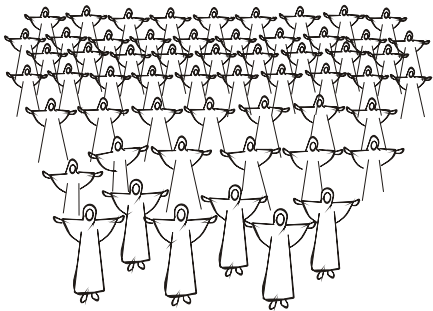
## Bethlehem

In those days Caesar Augustus (king) made a decree that a census be taken. Everyone had to register their names in the city of their ancestors. Mary & Joseph had to travel to their town of Bethlehem. It was nearly time for the baby to be born. There was no room for them in the inn but they did get a place where the animals were kept. It was here that this special baby, Jesus, was born. Mary wrapped him up snugly in cloths and laid him in the manger, a feeding trough.

# Shepherds & Sheep



That night in the fields just outside the town of Bethlehem some shepherds were looking after their sheep. Suddenly an angel stood before them and the glory of God shone around them. The shepherds were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Don't be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all people. Today in Bethlehem a saviour has been born for you. He is the one appointed by God to rule the world, that is, Christ the Lord."



# Angels

Suddenly the angel was joined by thousands of other angels. Filling the night sky, they praised God saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased."



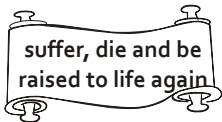
# Manger Scene

When the angels had left, the shepherds hurried to Bethlehem. They found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. They went out and told many other people everything they had seen. And all who heard were amazed.



# Scrolls

All this took place to fulfill what many prophets had foretold. He would:



His description was amazing. He would be different to all the prophets. The angel said he would be named Emmanuel, which means "God is amongst us".



## Shining Star

When Jesus was born a new star appeared in the sky. Some men from the East who studied the stars saw this. They recognized it as a sign from God that a special king had been born: one that was to be greatly honoured and worshipped.



## Wise Men & Camels

Those scholars (wise men) began the long journey. They kept following the star. Finally it stopped right over the place where Jesus was. The wise men came into the house and saw the child with Mary. Great was their joy. They fell to the ground and worshipped him. Opening their bags they gave him expensive and special gifts.

# Gifts

At Christmas time people give each other gifts just as the wise men did. Those who believe and trust in Jesus remember the gift God gave to the world: a saviour to pull us out of the pit of sin, shame and fear.



# The Beginning of the Good News

What amazing things: angels, dreams, a new star, shepherds, a poor virgin and her fiancée. Rich & poor, educated & uneducated, the natural & supernatural, all meet at the manger. The prophecies given by Almighty God centuries before had come true.



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What is the essence of Christmas and what does it have to do with me? Jesus is real. He was unique, not only in his birth, but also in his life, death and resurrection. As the God-man he came to rescue us from sin, death and hell. This is the news of great joy for all people. You can find out more by reading the Bible for yourself.



**Interesting  
free app:  
bibleinoneyear**

Ref: Bible, Matthew ch 1-2; Luke, ch 1-2



*May the joy & peace  
of Christmas be  
with you!*



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