



# *The Birth of Jesus Foretold*

**<sup>26</sup> In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. <sup>28</sup> Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup> Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean.**



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**<sup>30</sup> “Don’t be afraid, Mary,” the angel told her, “for you have found favor with God! <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus.**

**<sup>32</sup> He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David.**

The background of the slide features a silhouette of a nativity scene. On the left, a large, leafless tree stands against a dark, starry night sky. To the right, a manger is visible with the silhouettes of Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus. The overall scene is set against a dark, starry night sky.

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**<sup>33</sup> And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" <sup>34</sup> Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin."**

**<sup>35</sup> The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God.**

The image features a silhouette of a nativity scene against a dark, starry night sky. In the foreground, a large, leafless tree stands to the left. To its right, a simple wooden manger is visible, with several figures inside, including a woman and a child. The background shows a soft, glowing horizon, possibly representing a sunset or sunrise, with a few stars scattered across the dark sky.

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**<sup>36</sup> What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. <sup>37</sup> For the word of God will never fail."**

**<sup>38</sup> Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.**

The image features a silhouette of a nativity scene on the left side. It includes a large, leafless tree, a manger with figures of Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus, and a starry night sky with several bright stars. The background is a gradient of purple and pink, suggesting a sunset or sunrise.

## *The Birth of Jesus the Messiah*

**<sup>18</sup> This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.**



## *The Birth of Jesus the Messiah*

***<sup>20</sup> As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."***<sup>22</sup> All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:



## *The Birth of Jesus the Messiah*

***<sup>23</sup> "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel,<sup>[c]</sup> which means 'God is with us.'"***

**<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.**



## *The Birth of Jesus*

<sup>2</sup> At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. <sup>4</sup> And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee.



## *The Birth of Jesus*



**<sup>5</sup> He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child.**

**<sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. <sup>7</sup> She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.**

# *The Shepherds and Angels*

**<sup>8</sup> That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, <sup>10</sup> but the angel reassured them. *"Don't be afraid!"* he said. *"I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. <sup>11</sup> The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David!"***



# *The Shepherds and Angels*

***<sup>12</sup> And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.”<sup>13</sup> Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.”***

***<sup>15</sup> When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, “Let’s go to Bethlehem! Let’s see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”***



# *The Shepherds and Angels*

**<sup>16</sup> They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.**

**<sup>17</sup> After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. <sup>18</sup> All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, <sup>19</sup> but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about them often. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them.**



# *Visitors from the East*

**<sup>2</sup> Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, *“Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him.”*<sup>3</sup> King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem.**



## *Visitors from the East*

**4** He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?" **5** "In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote: **6** *'And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.'*"



# *Visitors from the East*

**<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. <sup>8</sup> Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"**



## *Visitors from the East*

**<sup>9</sup> After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! <sup>11</sup> They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.**

