

The Birth of Jesus

Luke 2:1-20 - *The Birth of Jesus Christ*

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." 16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. 18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

(Read also: Matthew 1:18-24)



A Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Angels We Have Heard on High

A French Carol

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing over the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains,
Glo-ria in excelsis Deo;
Glo-ria in excelsis Deo.

A Closer Look: *The Birth of Jesus*

1. Why did Joseph and Mary go to Bethlehem? (*To be registered for taxes*)
2. Why was Jesus born in a stable? (*Many came to be registered. There was no room in the inn*)
3. Who told the shepherds that Jesus was born? (*An angel*)
4. What was the first thing the angel said to them? (*Do not be afraid. I bring you good news*)
5. What was the angel's message? (*A Savior was born*) Who was to receive this good news? (*All people*)
6. How many angels sang to the shepherds? (*A multitude of the heavenly hosts*) What song did the angels sing? (*Glory to God in the Highest!*)
7. How did they react to the angels' message? (*They went "with haste" to Bethlehem. When they found the baby Jesus, they worshiped Him.*)
8. What did the shepherds do after they saw the baby Jesus? (*They went home praising God. They told others what they had seen.*)
9. What does it mean that Mary "treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart"?
10. What would you say to someone about Jesus birth and the joy it makes you feel?