

Jesus is Born | Luke 2:1-20

In those days, Caesar Augustus made a law. It required that a list be made of everyone in the whole Roman world. It was the first time a list was made of the people while Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone went to their own town to be listed.

So **Joseph** went also. He went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea. That is where Bethlehem, the town of David, was. **Joseph** went there because he belonged to the family line of David. He went there with **Mary** to be listed. **Mary** was engaged to him. She was expecting a baby.

While **Joseph** and **Mary** were there, the time came for the child to be born. She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. She wrapped him in large strips of cloth. Then she placed him in a manger. That's because there was no guest room where they could stay.

There were **shepherds** living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were taking care of their sheep. An **angel** of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified. But the **angel** said to them,

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news. It will bring great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord. Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a large group of **angels** from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said,

"May glory be given to God in the highest heaven!
And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!"

The **angels** left and went into heaven. Then the **shepherds** said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found **Mary** and **Joseph** and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger. After the **shepherds** had seen him, they told everyone. They reported what the **angel** had said about this child. All who heard it were amazed at what the **shepherds** said to them.

But **Mary** kept all these things like a secret treasure in her heart. She thought about them over and over. The **shepherds** returned. They gave glory and praise to God. Everything they had seen and heard was just as they had been told.