

**Episode:** Christmas Series No. 10

**Narrator:** Angel

**Primary Scriptures:** Luke 2:1-20

**Story Summary:** An angel recounts the events surrounding the birth of Jesus

**Location:** Bethlehem

**Time:** Circa 4 BC

**Suggested Memory Scriptures:** Luke 2:13-14

Matthew 2:8-9 tells of the wise men following the star until it stopped over the place where Jesus was born, while Luke 2:8-15 tells of the angel appearing to the shepherds, then joined by a great company of angels. This episode combines those parts of the story along with the fact that there would have been numerous stars in the night sky to begin with.

The purpose of this episode is to point out that many things that God put into place for the birth of Jesus to take place as it did. God knew long, long beforehand that Jesus would need to come to earth and be crucified for mankind's sins. Throughout the Old Testament, beginning with the Garden of Eden, there are hints of the coming of Jesus.

From our limited viewpoint, it is sometimes hard to determine when God put certain people in place to do certain things, or whether he just worked within what was happening anyway. Certainly, the births of John and Jesus were miraculous, but the census and King Herod were circumstances and people easily used.

Some of the messages of the angel deserve special examination. The angel brought good news that will cause great joy for all people. This is reminiscent of God's promise to Abraham that all people would be blessed through him. Through Jesus, all people have the ability to become the children of God. That is very good news.

The angel said that Jesus is the Messiah, the Lord. By saying that, the angel confirmed that Jesus is the savior of the world. He saves everyone through the cross. The Jews were looking for a savior, and Jesus was it.

The result of Jesus being born was that the angels all glorified God. Glorifying God is the purpose of all mankind. Through the birth of Jesus, mankind began to be empowered to do that.

The angel said that God's peace will rest on those God favors. Through Jesus, everyone has the potential to receive God's favor and peace.

What a miraculous night! The God who created the Universe came to earth in the form of a helpless baby, all so that mankind can be reconciled to God and receive eternal life.