

Angels We Have Heard On High

Verse 1

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Chorus

Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo

Verse 2

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song

Verse 3

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

Verse 4

See Him in a manger laid
Whom the choirs of angels praise
Mary Joseph lend your aid
While our hearts in love we raise

CCLI Song # 7014589

James Chadwick | Kurtis Parks

© Words: Public Domain
Music: 2013 Songs of 714 (Admin. by Moon & Musky Music)

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](https://www.ccli.com/terms-of-use). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 57007

The First Noel

Verse 1

The first Noel
The angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
In fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

Chorus

Noel Noel Noel Noel
Born is the King of Israel

Verse 2

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night

Verse 3

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made heaven and earth of nought
And with His blood mankind hath bought

Bridge

(And) when angels sing
It was heavenly
And when angels sing
It was heavenly

Ending

Glory glory
Glory in the highest

CCLI Song # 6111627

David Crowder | Jack Parker | Jeremy Bush | Mark Waldrop | Mike Dodson | Mike Hogan

© Words: Public Domain
Music: 2011 Hoganmike Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Inot Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
We Are The Digital Age (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
worshiptogether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](https://www.ccli.com/terms-of-use). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

CCLI License # 57007

WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE & CAROL OF THE BELLS

By: John Henry Hopkins Jr.

We three kings of Orient are
Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain moor and mountain
Following yonder star

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Hark how the bells
sweet silver bells
all seem to say
throw cares away
Christmas is here,
bringing good cheer,
to young and old,
meek and the bold
Gaily they ring
while people sing
songs of good cheer,
Christmas is here
Merry merry, merry, merry Christmas,
Merry merry, merry, merry Christmas,
Hark how the bells
sweet silver bells
all seem to say
throw cares away

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain
Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever ceasing never
Over us all to reign

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Hark how the bells
sweet silver bells
all seem to say
throw cares away

Christmas is here,
bringing good cheer,
to young and old,
meek and the bold
Gaily they ring
while people sing
songs of good cheer,
Christmas is here
Merry merry, merry, merry Christmas,
Merry merry, merry, merry Christmas,
Hark how the bells
sweet silver bells
all seem to say
throw cares away

Frankincense to offer have I
Incense owns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising all men raising
Worship Him God on high

O star of wonder star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading still proceeding
Guide us to Thy perfect light

Go Tell It On The Mountain

Verse 1

While shepherds kept their watching
Over silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Chorus

(Oh) (So) I say go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

Verse 2

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo above the Earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth

Verse 3

Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
On that blessed Christmas morn

Verse 4

I was a lonely seeker
I sought both night and day
I asked the Lord to help me
And he showed me the way

Verse 5

He made me a watchman
Upon a city wall
And if I am a Christian
I am the least of all

Tag

Go tell it
Go tell it
Go tell it
Go on and tell it

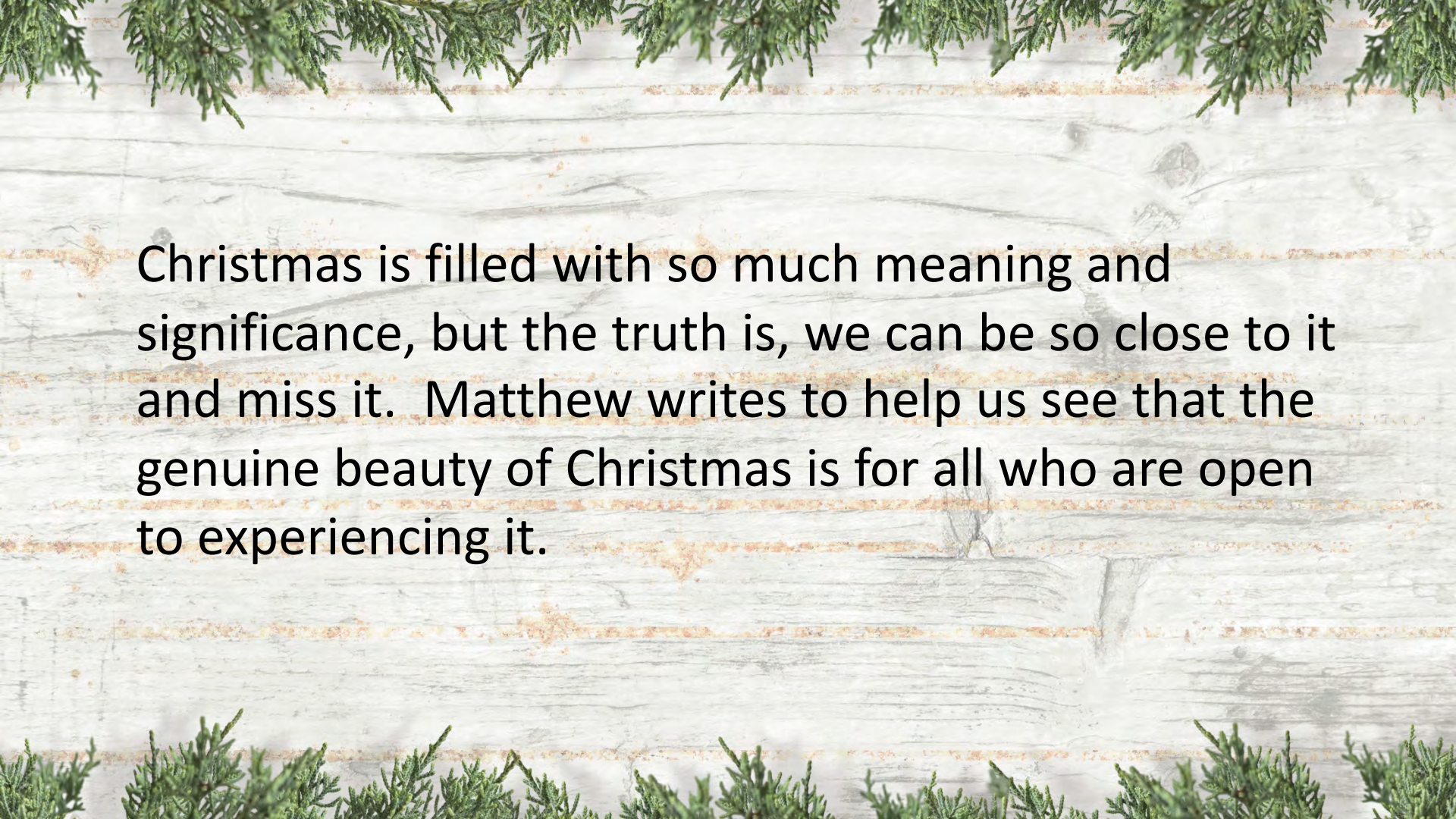
Everyone has a

STORY

to tell

The image features a rustic, weathered wooden background. The wood is painted with a white wash, creating a textured, aged appearance. The grain of the wood is visible through the paint. At the top and bottom edges, there are green pine branches, likely spruce or fir, which frame the central text. The text is centered and reads "So Close to Christmas" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

So Close to Christmas



Christmas is filled with so much meaning and significance, but the truth is, we can be so close to it and miss it. Matthew writes to help us see that the genuine beauty of Christmas is for all who are open to experiencing it.



5 Stories:



5 Stories:

1) Joseph



5 Stories:

1) Joseph – Engaged to Mary when she conceived by the Holy Spirit – the adoptive, legal father of Jesus – provides for and protects his family



5 Stories:

1) Joseph

2) Jewish People



5 Stories:

1) Joseph

2) Jewish People - “all Jerusalem”



5 Stories:

1) Joseph

2) Jewish People

3) Jewish Religious Leaders



5 Stories:

1) Joseph

2) Jewish People

**3) Jewish Religious Leaders – “chief priests and scribes” –
Pharisees and Sadducees**



5 Stories:

- 1) Joseph
- 2) Jewish People
- 3) Jewish Religious Leaders
- 4) **Herod**



5 Stories:

- 1) Joseph
- 2) Jewish People
- 3) Jewish Religious Leaders
- 4) Herod – His father knew Julius Caesar – appointed king of Judea by Roman Senate in 40 BCE – ushered in the Herodian Dynasty – responsible for construction of the Temple Mount (Western Wall) – publicly identified himself as a Jew, his immoral lifestyle was inconsistent with that claim – executed some of his family**



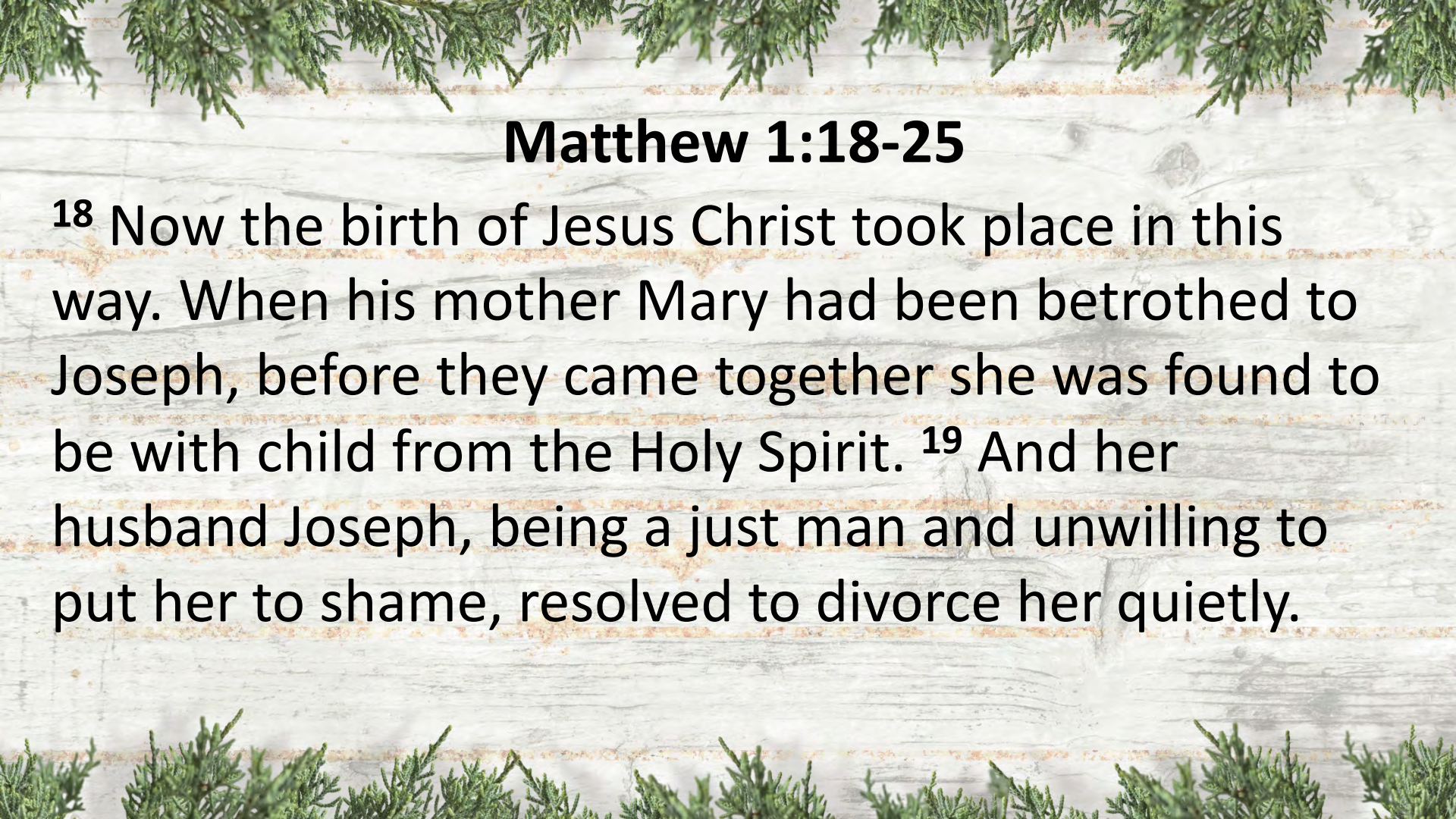
5 Stories:

- 1) Joseph
- 2) Jewish People
- 3) Jewish Religious Leaders
- 4) Herod
- 5) **Wise Men**



5 Stories:

- 1) Joseph
- 2) Jewish People
- 3) Jewish Religious Leaders
- 4) Herod
- 5) **Wise Men – Magi – impossible to know with certainty – astrologers, astronomers, scientists – Persia, Babylon, Arabia (not 3 kings)**



Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.



Matthew 1:18-25

²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

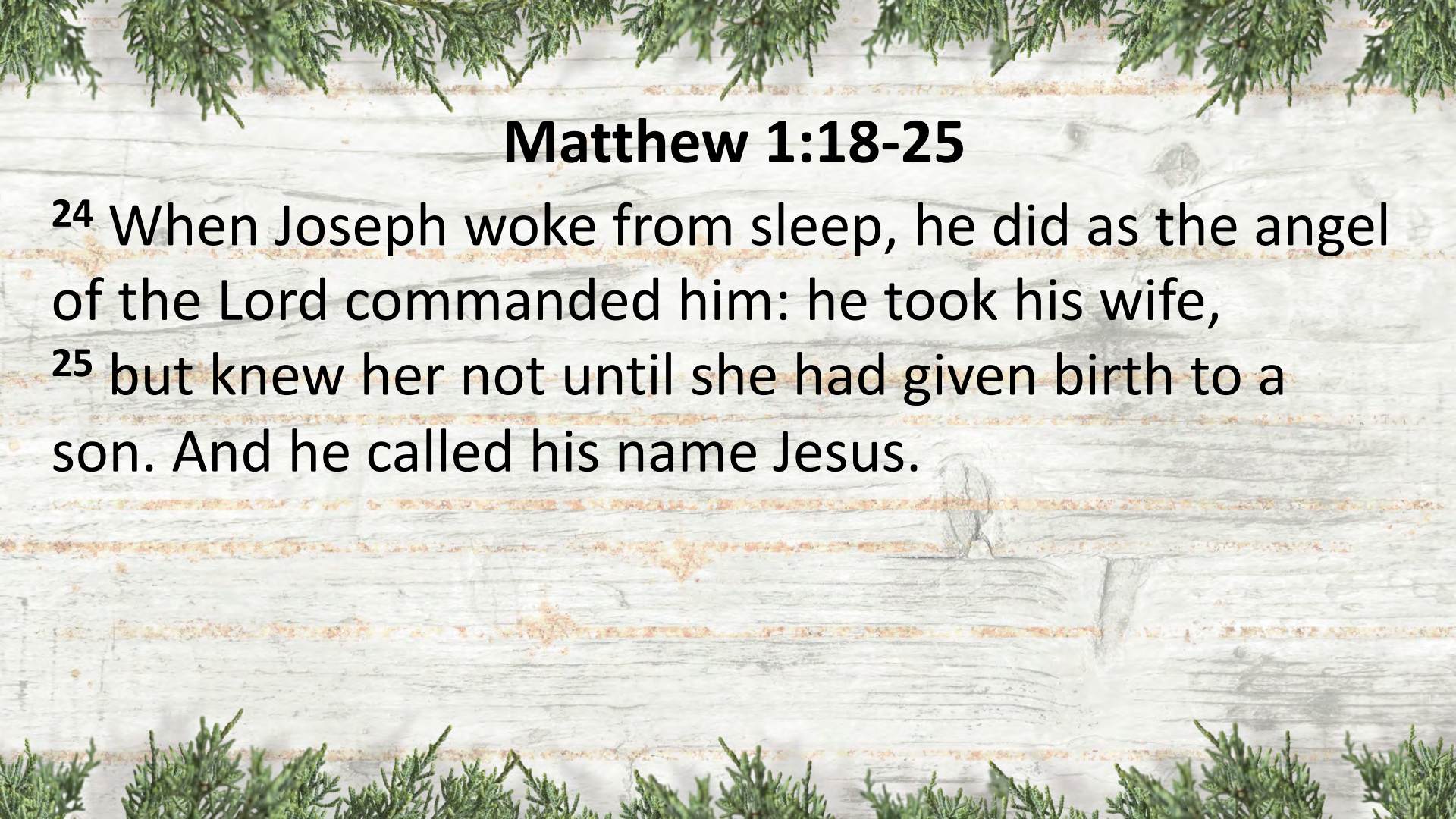


Matthew 1:18-25

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us).



Matthew 1:18-25

²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,
²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.



Joseph:



Joseph:

- **Was a good man**



Joseph:

- Was a good man

“And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.”



Joseph:

- Was a good man
- **Trusted God**



Joseph:

- Was a good man
- Trusted God

“When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name, Jesus.”



God was working.



God was working.

Matthew 1:22-23

²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”
(which means, God with us).



5 Stories:

- 1) Joseph
- 2) Jewish People
- 3) Jewish Religious Leaders
- 4) Herod
- 5) Wise Men



Matthew 2:1-12

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him;



Matthew 2:1-12

4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. **5** They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:



Matthew 2:1-12

⁶ ““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of
Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.””



Matthew 2:1-12

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold,



Matthew 2:1-12

the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him



Matthew 2:1-12

gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



5 Stories:

1) Joseph

2) Jewish People



Jewish People:

- **Had Jewish theology**



Jewish People:

- Had Jewish theology
- **Heard promise that King of the Jews had been born**



Jewish People:

- Had Jewish theology
- Heard promise that King of the Jews had been born
- **Were afraid**



Matthew 2:3

³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled,
and all Jerusalem with him;



Jewish People:

- Had Jewish theology
- Heard promise that King of the Jews had been born
- Were afraid
- **Fear of Herod surpassed their hope in the Savior**



5 Stories:

1) Joseph

2) Jewish People

3) Jewish Religious Leaders



Jewish Religious Leaders:

- **Heard King of the Jews had been born**




Jewish Religious Leaders:

- Heard King of the Jews had been born
- **Were indifferent, apathetic**



Matthew 2:3-5

³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and **assembling all the chief priests and scribes** of the people, he inquired of them **where the Christ was to be born.** ⁵ **They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea,** for so it is written by the prophet:





Jewish Religious Leaders:

- Heard King of the Jews had been born
- Were indifferent, apathetic
- **OT knowledge did not inspire them to look for the Savior**



Jewish Religious Leaders:

- Heard King of the Jews had been born
- Were indifferent, apathetic
- OT knowledge did not inspire them to look for the Savior
- **Comfort in role surpassed their hope in the Savior**



5 Stories:

- 1) Joseph
- 2) Jewish People
- 3) Jewish Religious Leaders
- 4) **Herod**



Herod:

- **Immersed in Jewish culture and theology**



Herod:

- Immersed in Jewish culture and theology
- **Detested the arrival of the Savior (King of the Jews)**



Herod:

- Immersed in Jewish culture and theology
- Detested the arrival of the Savior (King of the Jews)
- **Deceived others for his own benefit**



Matthew 2:1-8

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “**Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?** For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³ When Herod the king heard this, **he was troubled**, and all Jerusalem with him;



Matthew 2:1-8

4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. **5** They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:



Matthew 2:1-8

⁶ ““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of
Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.””



Matthew 2:1-8

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.”



Herod:

- Immersed in Jewish culture and theology
- Detested the arrival of the Savior (King of the Jews)
- Deceived others for his own benefit
- **Power, authority, lifestyle threatened**



Herod:

- Immersed in Jewish culture and theology
- Detested the arrival of the Savior (King of the Jews)
- Deceived others for his own benefit
- Power, authority, lifestyle threatened
- **Devoted to destroying the Savior**



5 Stories:

- 1) Joseph
- 2) Jewish People
- 3) Jewish Religious Leaders
- 4) Herod
- 5) **Wise Men**



Wise Men:

- **Some familiarity with Jewish faith**



Wise Men:

- Some familiarity with Jewish faith
- **Open to God's leading**



Wise Men:

- Some familiarity with Jewish faith
- Open to God's leading
- **Traveled 400-800 miles to Jerusalem**



Wise Men:

- Some familiarity with Jewish faith
- Open to God's leading
- Traveled 400-800 miles to Jerusalem
- **Gentiles**







Matthew 2:1-2

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”



Wise Men:

- Some familiarity with Jewish faith
- Open to God's leading
- Traveled 400-800 miles to Jerusalem
- Gentiles
- **Looked for and recognized truth of Jesus' birth**



Wise Men:

- Some familiarity with Jewish faith
- Open to God's leading
- Traveled 400-800 miles to Jerusalem
- Gentiles
- Looked for and recognized truth of Jesus' birth
- **Responded to God's leading**



Wise Men:

- Some familiarity with Jewish faith
- Open to God's leading
- Traveled 400-800 miles to Jerusalem
- Gentiles
- Looked for and recognized truth of Jesus' birth
- Responded to God's leading
- **Worshiped the Messiah**



Wise Men:

- Some familiarity with Jewish faith
- Open to God's leading
- Traveled 400-800 miles to Jerusalem
- Gentiles
- Looked for and recognized truth of Jesus' birth
- Responded to God's leading
- Worshiped the Messiah
- **Jesus' birth is for everyone**



Matthew 2:7-12

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold,



Matthew 2:7-12

the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, **they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.** ¹¹ And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they **fell down and worshiped him.** Then, opening their treasures,



Matthew 2:7-12

they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



God was working.



God was working.

Matthew 2:5-6

⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ ““And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.””



God was working:

- **Dreams**



God was working:

- Dreams
- **A Star**



God was working:

- Dreams
- A Star
- **Decisions of people**
 - **Wise men got “Bethlehem” from Herod**
 - **Herod got “Bethlehem” from Jewish religious leaders**



This Christmas:

- **God is still working...**



This Christmas:

- God is still working...
- **Jesus' birth touches our heads and our hearts**



This Christmas:

- God is still working...
- Jesus' birth touches our heads and our hearts
- **God is using us to point others to Jesus**