

20th Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **peace** to men on whom his favour rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to **Bethlehem** and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about”. Luke 2:13-15

21st So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the babe, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child and all that heard it were amazed. Luke 2:16-18

22nd After Jesus was born in Judea during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked “Where is the one who has been born **king** of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to **worship** him”. Matt 2:1, 2

23rd On coming to the house (the Magi) saw the child with his mother Mary and they bowed down and **worshipped** him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” Matt 2:11

24th When the time had fully come, God sent his son born of a woman, born under the law, to **redeem** those under the law that we might receive the full rights of sons.” Gal 4:4

25th The **Word** became flesh and made his dwelling among us...full of grace and truth. John 1:14

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Christmas

Contemplations



*Special Pull-Out feature featuring
daily thoughts from Scripture leading up to Christmas*

*Follow the words and themes in bold print through the prophecies to the
Christmas Story.*

1st In the beginning was the **Word**, and the **Word** was with God and the **Word** was **God**. He was with God in the beginning. In him was life and the life was the light of men John 1:1, 3

The prophecies.....

2nd The scepter will not depart from **Judah**, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his. (Jacob’s prophecy over his son Judah from whose family Jesus was to come. c1740 BC) Gen 49:10

3rd “The days are coming” declare the **LORD**, “when I will raise up to **David** a righteous Branch, a **King** who will rule wisely and do what is right and just in the land. In his days **Judah** will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The **LORD** Our Righteousness.” (Jeremiah’s prophecy c600 BC). Jeremiah 23:5, 6

4th O Zion you who bring good tidings, get up in to the high mountains: O Jerusalem. You who bring good tidings. Lift up your voice with strength. Lift it up, be not afraid: say unto the cities of **Judah**: Behold your **God**! (The prophet Isaiah speaking c700BC) Isaiah 40:9

- 5th Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The **virgin** will be with child and will give birth to a son and will call him **Immanuel**. Isaiah 7:14 Isaiah's prophecy c740BC)
- 6th For to us a child is born, to us a son is given and the government will be upon his shoulders.... Isaiah 9:6
- 7thand he will be called Wonderful, Counsellor (Heb 'advisor'), Mighty God (Mighty = Heb 'powerful, great'; **God**=Heb 'mighty One'), Everlasting Father ('ancestor, source, inventor'), **Prince of Peace** (Heb='shalom, completeness') Isaiah 9:6 c740 BC
- 8th But you **Bethlehem** Ephratah, though you are small among the clans of **Judah**, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from old, from ancient times." (Micah's prophecy c720 BC) Micah 5:2
- 9th Rejoice greatly O daughter of Zion! Shout O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold your **King** is coming to you. He is just and having **salvation**.....He shall speak **peace** to the nations; his **dominion** shall be from sea to sea. (Zechariah's prophecy c515 BC) Zech 9:9, 10
- 10th Thus says the Lord of Hosts: Once more (it is a little time) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; and I will shake all nations and they shall come to the Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this temple with **glory** says the Lord of Hosts. (Haggai's prophecy c520 BC) (Haggai 2:6, 7)
- 11th Behold I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple even the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight. Behold he is coming. (Malachi's prophecy c300-400 BC) Malachi 3:1
-fulfilled
- 12th God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendent of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said "Greetings you who are highly favoured! The Lord is with you." Luke 1:26-28

- 13th "Do not be afraid, Mary. You have found favour with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son and you are to give him the name **Jesus**. He will be great and will be called **son of the most High**. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father **David** for ever and his **kingdom will never end**". Luke 1:30-33
- 14th "I am the Lord's servant" Mary answered "May it be to me as you have said for nothing is impossible with God." Luke 1:38
- 15th An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit." Matt 1:20
- 16th "She will give birth to a son and you are to give him the name **Jesus for he will save his people from their sins**." Matt 1:21
- 17th All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "**The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and they will call him Immanuel which means God with us**." Matt 1:22, 23
- 18th Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth to **Bethlehem** the town of **David** because he belonged to the house and line of **David**. While they were there the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her first born son. She wrapped him in cloths and laid him in a manger because there was no room in the inn." Luke 2:4, 6, 7
- 19th And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby.....An angel of the **Lord** appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were terrified. But the angel said to them "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of **David** a **Saviour** has been born, he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you; you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:8-12.