
Dec. 1 Long ago, a time of trouble and darkness was upon the land and people.

Dec. 2 The Prophet Isaiah called the people together, "Be kind to one another," he said.
"And walk in the way of God."

Dec. 3 Isaiah said, "One day a child will be born to us and he will be the Son of God
and the Prince of Peace."

Dec. 4 An angel appeared to Mary, "Fear not, for you have been chosen above all women
to bear the Son of God."

Dec. 5 The angel also appeared to Joseph telling him, "Lo, I bring you tidings of great joy."

Dec. 6 Mary and Joseph prepared for the birth of the baby.

Dec. 7 An air of quiet waiting and hope moved over the land.

Dec. 8 Far off to the East, the Magi, wise men who know the old teachings also waited.

Dec. 9 The wise men watched the sky at night, waiting for a bright star - a sign
that would tell of the birth of the promised child.

Dec. 10 Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem, the city of his ancestor David
to be counted in a census.

Dec. 11 Mary went with Joseph to Bethlehem, traveling many days over rough roads
on the back of a donkey.

Dec. 12 Bethlehem was crowded when Mary and Joseph arrived. Mary knew the time
of her baby's birth was near.

Dec. 13 There were no rooms available in Bethlehem. One kindly innkeeper offered Mary and Joseph a resting place in his stable.

Dec. 14 The animals in the stable made room for their guests. Joseph prepared the manger as a crib for the baby.

Dec. 15 There were shepherds in the field watching over their sheep. Suddenly a star of great size and brightness appeared.

Dec. 16 An angel appeared to the shepherds saying, "Fear not, I bring you tidings of great joy."

Dec. 17 The shepherds said, "Let us go quickly down from the hills into Bethlehem that we may see this baby whom the angels have made known to us."

Dec. 18 The Magi saw the star and said, "The time of waiting is over, here is the sign that the baby is born." They began their journey.

Dec. 19 Along their journey, the wise men were stopped by soldiers of King Herod.

Dec. 20 Herod was afraid the baby would grow into a king who would take away his power. He asked the Magi to tell him where they found the baby.

Dec. 21 The Magi continue their journey bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Dec. 22 There were many people gathered at the stable to bring gifts to the baby.

Dec. 23 All who went into the stable in feeling sorrowful and troubled came out showing brightness and joy.

Dec. 24 The Magi entered the stable, kneeling down to worship the baby. Angels voices sang praising God for light had at last returned to the world.
