

THE NAMES OF THE CHRIST CHILD OF BETHLEHEM

In the Old and New Testaments of the Bible many great and wondrous names of Jesus are recorded. In the prophetic word of Isaiah, He was foretold as the Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace who would come to live on Earth. All through the long years of the Old Testament, He was the promised Child, the expected and long-awaited Messiah, the Anointed One. He was to be the miraculously born Seed of Woman, the Virgin-born Emmanuel. The Prophet Micah foretold that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem of Judea, the royal city of David.



In the New Testament He was known as the Son of Mary, the only Begotten of the Father and forever proclaimed as the Son of God and Son of David, a second Adam undefiled. Yes, the Holy Babe was born in Bethlehem, the birth of the Christ Child taking place in a humble stable for there was no room in the inn. As instructed by the Angel, He was to be called Jesus, a name that means Saviour. Cradled in straw, this Holy Child, the Christ, was laid in a manger and wrapped in swaddling clothes.

From distant lands, most probably Persia (now Iran), wise men bearing costly gifts came to Bethlehem. Following that glorious heavenly star, they came seeking the newborn King, Son of the Most High; the Bright Morning Star of Israel and the Lion of the tribe of Judah.



Here they worshipped with awe and great reverence the Lord of Glory as Lord of lords and King of kings. At His feet they presented their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, gifts of thanksgiving because Jesus was God's greatest gift to them. The Son of Man, was their loving Saviour, their Redeemer from sin, giving peace in the heart.

This is why we give gifts at Christmas time and not because the wise men gave gifts to the Infant Jesus.

So come! Come close - just like the wise men, the Magi, came that very first Christmas night.

Thanks be to God for His Indescribable gift.

2 Corinthians 9: 15

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes on Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.

John 3: 16

CHRISTMAS CAROL - THERE'S A NEWBORN

There's a newborn in a stable,
Mary gives Him loving care,
And she calls her Baby – Jesus;
Watched by Joseph standing there.



There's a newborn in a manger,
Sweetly sleeping in the straw,
With the cattle lowing round Him,
And that place is filled with awe.



There's a mighty angel chorus,
Heralding our Saviour's birth,
Telling out the news to shepherds
Of goodwill and peace on earth

There's a bright star in the heavens,
Leading wise men each to bring
Gifts of precious gold, myrrh, incense,
To our Lord, the newborn King.

There's a greeting we can give Him,
When our thankful voices raise,
Words of loving adoration
And our songs of joyful praise.



Tunes:
Stuttgart and Ormingham composed for this carol by Crimea
Butler Downton.

Jesus said:

Peace (Shalom) I leave with you; My peace I now give you.

John 14: 27