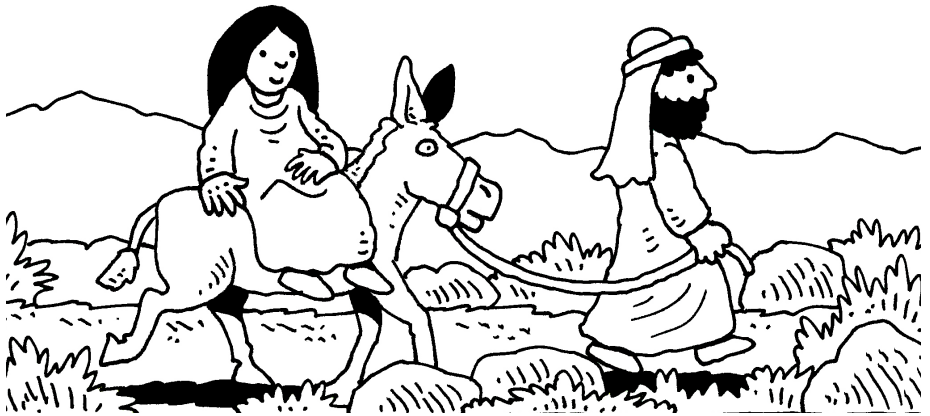


THE BIRTH OF JESUS



A COLORING IN BOOK
WITH STORIES
FROM THE BIBLE

WHEN JESUS WAS BORN

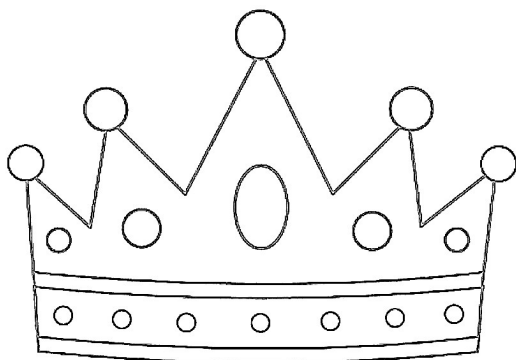
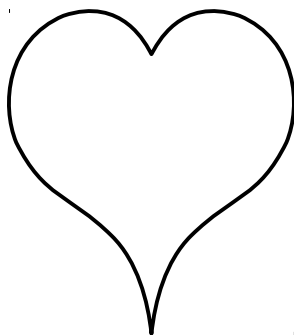
From the beginning God promised His people that He will send them a Saviour

. A Saviour is somebody who will rescue others from danger and from doing the wrong things.

His name is Jesus.

He is the one who would

also tell them more about God's wonderful love.



He would also be their

King forever and his

Kingdom will never end.

His Kingdom will be a very peaceful Kingdom.

For thousands of years

God's people looked forward to this.

They had many different kings which ruled over them. Only a few of them were good. All the others did evil things. There were kings from other countries too who ruled over God's people. So they suffered a lot and was really looking forward to the coming of their own special King ... the King whom God promised them.

So about 2000 years ago it happened. Jesus was born here on earth. This was a wonderful thing which happened.

It was also very, very important because

Jesus is God's only Son.



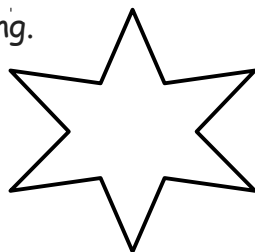
Before Jesus was born God sent his special messengers to earth to prepare the people for it. These messengers are called angels. They appeared to Mary and Joseph, who were Jesus' parents here on earth. The angels also appeared to the Shepherds who were looking after their sheep in the field at night.

And then a special star appeared in the Eastern sky. All the different things which happened when Jesus was born are very amazing.

I wrote a story about each one.

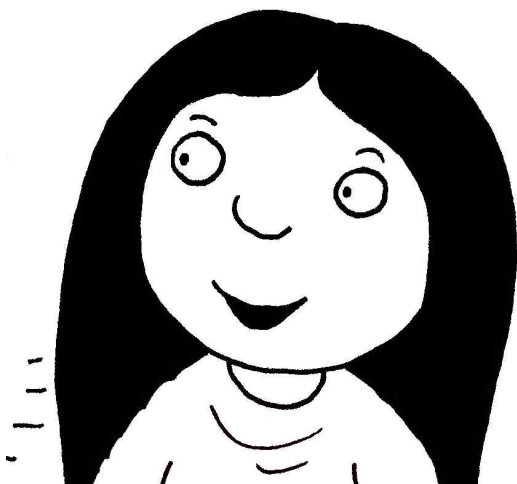
I hope you will enjoy reading

these stories and that you will have fun coloring in the pictures.



ANGEL GABRIEL APPEARS TO MARY

Long time ago there was a little girl called Mary. Her parents were God's people and from when she was small, they were always teaching her to listen to God and do what He wants.



She became a beautiful young woman and she was also beautiful on the inside. Why? Because she kept her heart pure.

That means that she obeyed God and when she did anything wrong, she always said sorry. She also tried to be kind to others.

Mary was engaged to Joseph, a young man who also loved God. They were looking forward to getting married.

One night after Mary said her prayers, suddenly angel Gabriel stood in front of her. He was huge and his face and clothes were shining like a bright light. He said to her :

"Peace to you!

The Lord is with you and He has blessed you in a big way!"

She didn't know what to say
and wondered all about.

Then Gabriel told her :

"Don't be afraid, Mary; God has chosen you.
You will have a baby boy and you must call him Jesus.
He will be great and He will be called
the Son of the Most High God.
He will be a King and his Kingdom will never end!"



Mary was very
amazed but also
worried. She asked
Gabriel :

"How can this happen,
I am not even yet
married to Joseph."

Then Gabriel
explained it all to
Mary :

"Remember, nothing
is too difficult for God. The Holy Spirit and God's power will
come on you to have this baby.
That's why the child will be called the Son of God."

Now Mary understood better and said:

"It's fine, let it happen just as you have told me."
After this, Gabriel left.

AN ANGEL BRINGS AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO JOSEPH



Joseph was a young man who always tried to do the right things. This is what he learned from his parents. He was engaged to Mary. They were all God's people who lived long ago.

Joseph and Mary were looking forward to getting married. But when Joseph heard that Mary was going to have a baby, he didn't understand it and he was scared. So he didn't want to marry Mary anymore.

But while he was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord came to him in a dream.

He said :
"Joseph, do
not be afraid
to marry
Mary
For it is by
the Holy
Spirit that
she is going to have a baby.



It will be a boy and you must call him Jesus because He will save his people from their sins."

God's prophet told His people about it long, long before it happened.

He said :

"A virgin will become pregnant and have a son, and He will be called Emmanuel, which means,

"God is with us."

Joseph woke up and knew he had to listen to God's message.

He wasn't scared anymore. He married Mary soon after this.



THE ANGELS AND THE SHEPHERDS

Just before Jesus was born, something unusual happened.
In those days the Ruler of the world ordered that
all the people's names had to be written down.
It's called a census.



They all had to do that in the town where they came from.
Joseph's people came from Bethlehem,
so they had to travel all the way there.

In those days there were no cars, buses or planes.
And only the rich people had horses and chariots to ride in.

Joseph and Mary were not rich and Mary was pregnant.
Joseph put Mary on a donkey
so that she did not have to walk all the way.



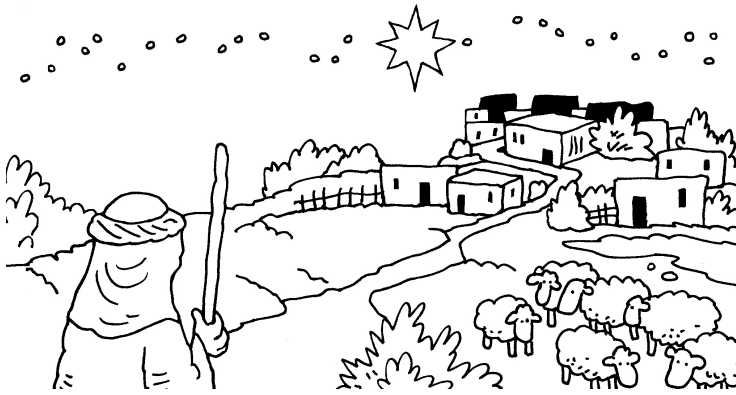
When they arrived in Bethlehem,
they couldn't find a place to stay,
because all the places were full.



So they stayed in a stable.
That's where the animals usually sleep.

That night baby Jesus was born
and Mary wrapped him in cloths
and put him in the manger.

It is where the animals' food is kept.
They were so happy about their beautiful son Jesus!



The same night some shepherds were looking after their sheep in the open field.

Suddenly they saw a huge,
bright angel.
They were quite scared but
the angel said :



"Don't be scared.

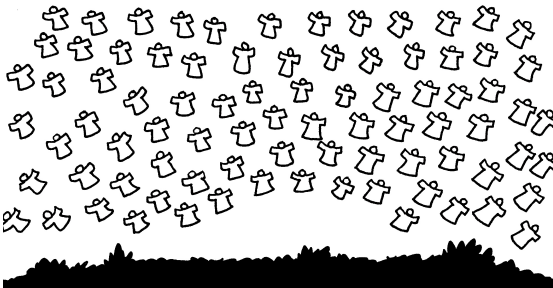
I'm bringing you a wonderful message from God.

It will make people very, very happy.

Tonight the Saviour of the world was born.

This will be the sign : You will find a baby wrapped in cloths,
sleeping in a manger."

All of a sudden the night sky were full of bright angels!



They were singing
this lovely song :

"Glory to God in the
highest heaven.

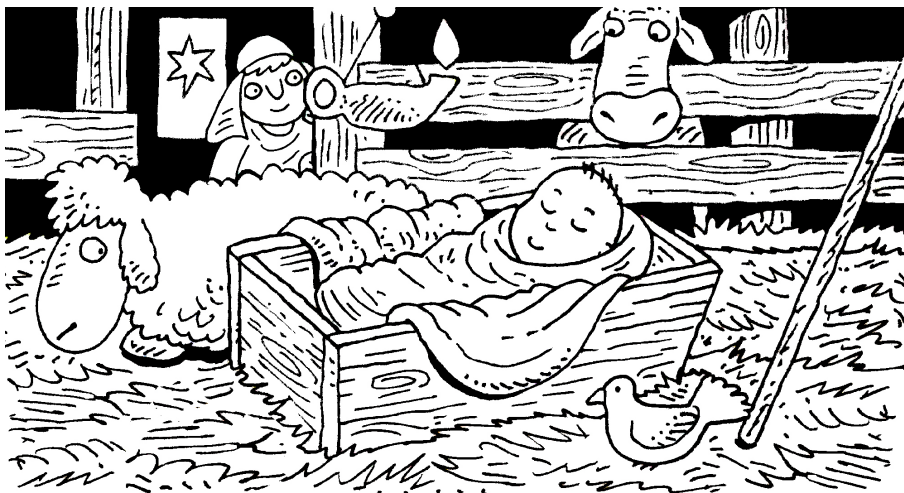
Peace of earth
and love to all people
on earth."

Then suddenly the angels left and went back to heaven.

The shepherds were amazed and
they looked at each other with big eyes.

They knew that it was God who sent this special message.

They were so happy and their hearts felt so calm.



They went to Bethlehem and
they found baby Jesus and his parents
just like the angel told them.

The shepherds told Mary and Joseph
all about the angel's message.

Then they told everybody else too
about this wonderful thing which happened
and all the people were very, very happy.

THE WISE MEN AND THE STAR

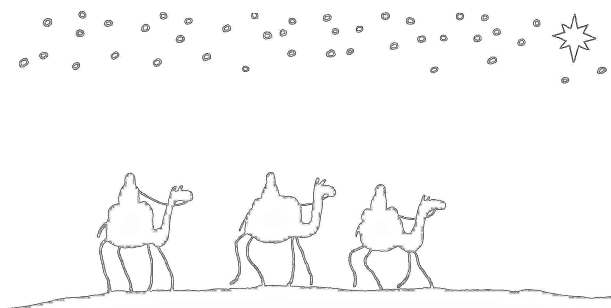


At the same time when Jesus was born,
3 wise men came from a far away country in the East
to bring gifts to Him.

They were people who studied the stars.

They noticed a new star in the sky.

They knew that it meant that a new king is born.



They
travelled
all the
way to
Israel
to meet
Him.
But they
so they

didn't know in which town Jesus was born,

went to Jerusalem where king Herod was.
He was ruling over God's people
but he didn't believe in God.
He and his men didn't know anything about the new king.



But God's men knew, because they read about it
in God's Scriptures.

Micah, one of God's prophets, from long ago,
wrote about it.

God promised to send His people a good King.
He will be born in Bethlehem.

King Herod was jealous and made plans to kill baby Jesus.
He asked the wise men to tell him when they found Jesus.
He even lied to them, saying that he also wanted to take
gifts to the new king, but he had evil plans in his heart.

The wise men left and went to Bethlehem.
They saw the star again and were so happy!
Then a wonderful thing happened.



The star moved and they followed it until it stopped over
the place where Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus were.

They found the new King!

They bowed down to baby Jesus and gave Him the gifts they
brought with them from the East.

Gold and some very
expensive spices,
called myrrh and
frankincense.



When the wise men left
to go back home, God spoke to them in a dream.

He warned them not go back to king Herod.

had to take another road to go home.

They listened to God.

God was watching over baby Jesus and His parents,
to protect them. But the danger was not over yet.

JESUS AS A LITTLE BOY

Mary and Joseph were so proud of their little baby.

They took Jesus to the temple
when he was 8 days old to be blessed.



They met Simeon in the temple. He loved God and was also looking forward to Jesus coming to earth.

When he took baby Jesus in his arms, he was so happy.

The Holy Spirit made
him so happy.

He knew that baby
Jesus is the Son of
God.

He said wonderful
things about Jesus.
Mary and Joseph were
very surprised because
Simeon have never
met them before.



There was also a woman called Anna, the prophetess
who went to the temple every day to pray.

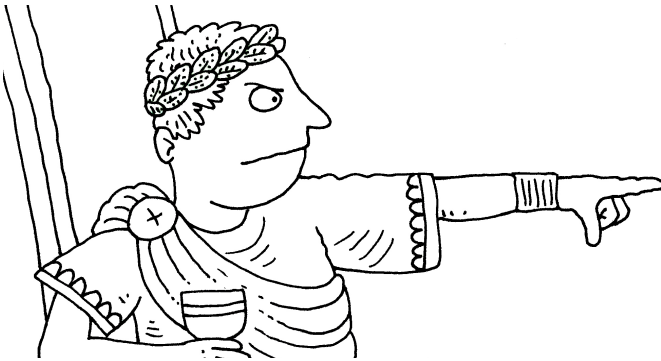
She also met baby Jesus,
She knew He is the King of kings.

This was a wonderful day for all of them.

But soon after this, Mary and Joseph had to protect baby Jesus from King Herod.



An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream.
He warned Joseph that king Herod wanted to
kill baby Jesus.



Another
angel told Joseph to flee with Mary and baby Jesus to
another country called Egypt.

Joseph listened to the angel.
They lived in Egypt until king Herod died

After some time an angel appeared again
to Joseph in a dream.
He told him it was safe to go back to Israel
because king Herod was dead.

Hosea, was one of God's prophets who wrote about it in
God's scriptures long before it happened.

Joseph took Mary and Jesus back to Israel.



He wanted to go back to Bethlehem,
but he was scared because
king Herod's son was now the new king.

Then God spoke to him in a dream.
God told him not to go back to Bethlehem.

They decided to live in a town called Nazareth.
Other prophets of God also wrote about this
long before it happened.

Jesus grew up and was a boy who always listened to his
earthly parents. The Holy Spirit was with him.

He also knew things about God which amazed his parents
and the priests in the temple.



Although he was so special, he was always doing what his
parents and teachers told him to do.

He never thought that he knew better than others.
He also helped his earthly father with his woodwork.

Jesus was a child just like you. He also liked to play with
his friends, just like you do.

**You can also read
all hese stories
in the Bible
in
Matthew 1&2
and
Luke 1&2.**



To print as a complete booklet :

On A4 paper, print 2 pages per sheet (you might have to set your printer options accordingly).

Print on both sides of the paper using the following format :

- 1st sheet of A4 paper print pages 20 & 1
on the flip side print pages 2 & 19**
- 2nd sheet of A4 paper print pages 18 & 3
on the flip side print pages 4 & 17**
- 3rd sheet of A4 paper print pages 16 & 5
on the flip side print pages 6 & 15**
- 4th sheet of A4 paper print pages 14 & 7
on the flip side print pages 8 & 13**
- 5th sheet of A4 paper print pages 12 & 9
on the flip side print pages 10 & 11**

**Put it together in sequence and fold in half.
Staple in the middle to form a booklet.**