

Reading:- Matthew Chapter 2

Mary was visited by an angel and told her that she was to have a child, so this made the baby a very special baby, he was to be God's own son. This was a very great privilege for Mary and she must have been a very fine and good woman for God to choose her in this way.

There was a man named Caesar Augustus, the Emperor, all his people should be taxed and that to do this everyone had to return to his or her father's home town, there to have his name entered in a register and pay over some money (called tax) for the use of the Emperor.

So Joseph and Mary started their journey to Bethlehem, the journey would take several days as the journey would be slow.

When they arrived at Bethlehem there was no place for Mary and Joseph to lodge, there was no room in the inn. Jesus was born in a stable and wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Although Jesus was born in a very lowly place, he was the only Son of God.

The shepherds in the fields keeping watch over their flock by night. An angel of the Lord appeared unto them and the glory of the Lord shone around about them, and they were afraid. The angel said unto them, not to be afraid that I bring good tidings of great joy, that a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord is born. And that there would be a sign and they would find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. Then suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. So the shepherds went to Bethlehem to see this thing which had come to pass.

Herod the King sent 3 wise men from the East to confirm that such a child was to be born, and where; and that they should return to let him know of the whereabouts of the child. When they departed they saw a star in the east and they followed the star to where the young child was. When they came into the house they fell down and worshipped the child and they presented to the child gold, frankincense and myrrh. The wise men were warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, and they departed into their own country another way.

After the wise men had left an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream telling him to take the young child and his mother and flee into Egypt.

Point to remember:- Our Lord was born a babe in Bethlehem.