

¹ In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.

² This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And everyone went to their own town to register.

³ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

⁴ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

⁵ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born.

6 And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

7 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

8 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

9 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.

10 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

11 This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

12 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

13 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."

14 So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

15 When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

16 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

17 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

18 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king...

19 Wise men came from the east to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is He who was born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the east and have come to worship Him."

20 When Herod the king heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

21 Then Herod, when he had privately called the wise men, carefully inquired of them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring me word again, so that I may come and worship Him also."

22 When they heard the king, they departed. And the star which they saw in the east went before them until it came and stood over where the young Child was.

23 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with great excitement.

24 And when they came into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary, His mother

25 (They) fell down and worshipped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



Directions:

1. Download and print.
2. Cut apart the scriptures.
3. Arrange the scriptures into a countdown with clothes pins, bags, or small boxes.
4. Number each bag or box.
5. Countdown to Christmas by reading one piece of scripture each day until Christmas.
6. Find more ideas at Activity-Mom.com