

Bible Stories of Appointed Times ... a visual story bible

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with story revision, activities and pearls of interest by Carla Joy Clements.

Bible Quilt, Pictures & Drama by Carla Joy Clements
Visual Story Bible Ministries, Inc. ~ P.O. Box 397, Moultrie, GA 31776
www.VisualStoryBible.org ~ 229-873-4922 ~ www.BibleQuilt.org

BIRTH OF MESSIAH
THE PROMISED DESCENDANT
Story #19

REVIEW

1. Review the “QUESTIONS” from the previous lesson.
2. Did God keep His promise about sending a messenger just before the Messiah, the Promised Descendant, was to come?
3. What did the prophets say about the birth of the Promised Descendant?

(The prophets said,

- (1) that He would be born of a virgin,
- (2) that He would be a descendant of David
- (3) that He would be born in Bethlehem of Judea,
- (4) that He would be born in a stable and
- (5) that His bed would be a manger.)

Read Luke 2:1-40

Watch VSB Teaching Video at www.VisualStoryBible.org

**“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us,
and we beheld His glory, glory as of the only begotten
from the Father, full of grace and truth” John 1:14**

BIRTH OF MESSIAH
THE PROMISED DESCENDANT
Story #19

There was a young woman named Mary (*Miryam*) who was engaged to a man named Joseph (*Yoseph*). One day the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her God had blessed her. The angel said Mary would give birth to a male child and should name him *Yeshua*.

Then Mary asked the angel, “How shall this be, since I have not lain with a man?”

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the power of the Highest shall come over you. You will give birth to the Holy One. He will be called the Son of God.”

When Joseph found out Mary was pregnant, he was troubled because he thought someone had slept with Mary. But an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him the child Mary was carrying was not conceived of man, but it was a miracle of God. Then Joseph and Mary married, but they did not sleep together until after this special child was born.

Mary & Joseph traveled to Bethlehem to be registered for the census. After they were there, the day came for Mary to give birth. And she gave birth to their firstborn son, and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a feeding trough, because there was no room for them in a lodging place.

Now there were shepherds watching their sheep in the hills near the town of Bethlehem (*Beit Lehem*). That night an angel of the Lord appeared to the shepherds. There was a great brightness all around them and they were afraid. The angel said to the shepherds, “Do not be afraid, I have good news for you which will be a source of joy for all people. This very day in the city of David, your Savior was born, He is the Messiah, the Lord. And this is how you will know it is true, you shall find the baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a feeding trough”. Just then, many other angels surrounded that angel and they were singing and praising God.

Then the shepherds went to the town of Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph. And lying in a feeding trough was baby Jesus (*Yeshua*). After they had seen Jesus, the shepherds went and told many people what they had seen and heard. The people continued to think about the things the shepherds had said.

Later, wise men came from a far place in the East, and they asked, “Where is the baby born to be king of the Jews? We saw His star and we have come to worship Him.” The king heard about this, so he called for the religious leaders and asked them about it. They told him the prophets said the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem of Judea, and that the Messiah would lead His people. The king was very upset, and when he had talked to the wise men he told them to find the child, and then return and tell him where the child was. The wise men left the king, and the star guided them to where Jesus was. The wise men worshiped the Messiah and gave Him gifts. But they did not return to tell the king where the child was.

After the wise men went away, Joseph had a dream. An angel of God told Joseph the king wanted to kill the Messiah. The angel told Joseph to escape to the land of Egypt. So Joseph took Mary and the child and went to Egypt. The prophet Hosea spoke about this hundreds of years before when God said, “out of Egypt I called My Son.”

pearl ~ *“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt (tabernacled) among us” (John 1:14). Isn’t this Scripture beautiful? The Greek word for dwelt means ‘tabernacle’. Scripture records God coming down from heaven to earth to ‘tabernacle’ among His people when Moses built the Tabernacle and the Israelite people beheld God’s glory. God also commanded “the Feast of Tabernacles” be observed every year at the appointed time in the fall of the year (Sept/Oct). And so it was, in the fullness of time... according to God’s appointed time, God sent His Son to ‘tabernacle’ (dwell) among us ~ the birth of Messiah at the Feast of Tabernacles. And an angel appeared to shepherds ‘keeping watch over their flock by night’ (they would have been outside at night during the fall of the year, not the cold winter)*

NOTE: Please do not use this picture for teaching in December. It was designed to show God’s Appointed Time and God’s prophetic picture ~ the birth of Messiah at Feast of Tabernacles in Sept/Oct.

BIRTH OF MESSIAH
THE PROMISED DESCENDANT
Characteristics of God

Which characteristics of God are shown in this story?
How is that characteristic of God shown in this story?

1. GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

*God caused Mary (*Miryam*), a virgin, to give birth to the Promised Descendant, as the prophets had said.

*The Promised Descendant was born in the town of Bethlehem (*Beit Lehem*) in Judea, as the prophets had said.
Beit Lehem means "house of bread" in Hebrew

*The Promised Descendant also went to Egypt as the prophet said.

2. GOD IS ALL POWERFUL

God caused the Promised Descendant to be born of a virgin.

pearl ~ *Bethlehem (Beit Lehem) means "house of bread" in the Hebrew language. God had appointed His Son to be born in the city called the house of bread. Later the Messiah would proclaim, "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35-48).*

pearl ~ *"And the Word became flesh, and dwelt (tabernacled) among us" (John 1:14). Isn't this Scripture beautiful? The Greek word for dwelt means 'tabernacle'. The Scripture records God coming down from heaven to earth to 'tabernacle' among His people when Moses & the Israelites built the Tabernacle. God also commanded "the Feast of Tabernacles" be observed every year at the appointed time in the fall of the year. And so it was, in the fullness of time... according to God's appointed time, God sent His Son to 'tabernacle' (dwell) among us. NOTE: **Please do not use this picture for teaching in December.** This picture was designed to be used to show the birth of Messiah at Feast of Tabernacles in Sept/Oct.*

BIRTH OF MESSIAH
THE PROMISED DESCENDANT
Questions

1. When Mary (*Miryam*) gave birth to Jesus (*Yeshua*) did this fulfill some prophecies about the Promised Descendant to come? (Yes.) What were some of those prophecies?

**PROPHECY~~ THE PROPHET ISAIAH SAID THAT A VIRGIN
WOULD BE THE MOTHER OF THE REDEEMER.**

Mary the mother of Jesus was a virgin.

“Therefore, the Lord will reveal part of His plan to you.
A virgin will conceive and give birth to a male child
and he shall be named Immanuel.” (*Isaiah 7:14*)

God sent an angel to tell Mary and Joseph about the child that was to be born to Mary. The angel said,

“Joseph, you son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary
as your wife. The Holy Spirit caused her to conceive.
She shall give birth to a son, and you will call His name
Yeshua, meaning Savior, for he shall save His people
from their sins.” (*Matthew 1:20-21*)

**PROPHECY~~ THE PROPHET MICAH SAID THE PROMISED
DESCENDANT WOULD BE BORN IN BETHLEHEM OF
JUDEA. *Micah 5:2***

“Even though Bethlehem (*Beit Lehem*) in Ephrathah is a
small town of the thousands of towns in Judah
yet from Bethlehem will come the one that is to rule in Israel,
whose existence (doings/happenings) is without beginning.”

JESUS (*Yeshua*) was born in Bethlehem in Judea.

The Bible tells us even though Mary and Joseph lived in Nazareth, they had to go to Bethlehem for a registration. And so, Mary's child was born in Bethlehem of Judea. This is just where the prophet had said He would be born.

“Joseph went from the town of Nazareth, in Galilee, to (the province of) Judea to the town named Bethlehem, where King David was born. Joseph went there because he was a Descendant of David. Joseph went there to register with Mary who was promised in marriage to him. Mary was expecting a child (pregnant).” (*Luke 2:4-5*)

PROPHECY~~ THE PROMISED DESCENDANT WAS TO BE A DESCENDANT OF ABRAHAM, ISAAC, JACOB, AND DAVID.

JESUS was a descendant of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob,...and David.

“The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac; and Isaac was the father of Jacob; and Jacob was the father of ..”
And Jesse was the father of David, the king;
and David, the king, was the father of . . .
And Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, who gave birth to Jesus, who is called Christ.” (*Mat 1:1-18*)

Remember what Zacharias prophesied after his son John was born. This is what Zacharias said about the Messiah,

“God has provided a mighty Savior for us, who is a descendant of his servant David.” (*Luke 1:69*)

JESUS (*YESHUA*) was a descendant of David.

“Joseph went there (to Bethlehem to register) because he was a descendant of David.” (*Luke 2:4*)

2. Look up these prophecies in Scripture that were fulfilled when Jesus (*Yeshua*) was born

Prophecies Concerning the Descendant		
Promise	Fulfillment	
Malachi 3:1	I will send My messenger to clear the way before Me	Luke 1:76 John 1:19-23
Isaiah 7:14	Who will give birth to Him	Matt 1:18
Micah 3:2	His place of birth	Matt 2:1
Daniel 9:25	When Descendant will be born	Luke 2:1-2
Malachi 3:2	The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple (His body = the temple) John 2:19-21	
Prophetic Picture	Feast of Tabernacles celebrated yearly at the appointed time in Sept/Oct Birth of Messiah Luke 2:7	

pearl ~ *“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt (tabernacled) among us” (John 1:14). Isn’t this Scripture beautiful? The Greek word for dwelt means ‘tabernacle’. Scripture records God coming down from heaven to earth to ‘tabernacle’ among His people when Moses built the Tabernacle and the Israelite people beheld God’s glory. God also commanded “the Feast of Tabernacles” be observed every year at the appointed time in the fall of the year (Sept/Oct). And so it was, in the fullness of time... according to God’s appointed time, God sent His Son to ‘tabernacle’ (dwell) among us ~ the birth of Messiah at the Feast of Tabernacles. And an angel appeared to shepherds ‘keeping watch over their flock by night’ (they would have been outside at night during the fall of the year, not the cold winter). Refer to the ‘Biblical Calendar’ at www.VisualStoryBible.org for the dates and more information on the Appointed Times of the LORD. Also, please listen to the Teaching Videos “Angel Appears to Mary” and “Birth of Messiah” www.VisualStoryBible.org for more information about the Feast of Tabernacles and its significance in Scripture.*

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Picture Description

19. "Birth of Messiah"

Birth of the Messiah - the Promised Descendant

Mary (*Miryam*), baby Jesus (*Yeshua*), Joseph (*Yosef*)

Messiah was born in a booth/shelter/tabernacle for livestock
(the Hebrew word for a booth is 'sukkah' – reference Gen.33:17)

Shepherds with sheep, Donkey, Star

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14)

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The Feast of Tabernacles is also known as Succoth or Feast of Booths.

Drama ~ Hints & Suggestions

Watching the video drama is experiencing the story
...so it's not necessary to actually do the drama.

But, if you want to try the drama - Go for it!

The drama can be done right in the classroom and it's great.

Remember, because it's a narrative... everyone can participate...whoever is there.

There's no need for rehearsals or pre-memorized scripts. That's the wonderful part. It's not a performance, it's an experience.

It's introduced and acted out the same day.

Everyone enjoys, there's no pressure, and the children are learning.

You don't even have to have props...but it certainly makes it a lot of fun.

Costumes are the easiest (use men's bath robes and homemade garments).

Headress can easily be made from a yard of thin knit fabric (no sewing).

~~~Remember, making props is part of experiencing the story~~~

Your class can make the props or you can have  
the whole congregation participate.

### **#19. Birth of Messiah**

#### Other Ways to Experience the Story

\*Listen to the song 🎵 "The Word Was Made Flesh" from the CD "Emmanuel: A Musical Celebration of the Life of Christ" © 1996 The Sparrow Corp.

\*\* Watch VSB Teaching Video at [www.VisualStoryBible.org](http://www.VisualStoryBible.org)