

The Birth of Christianity

Characters:

King Herod: King of Judea

Mary: Joseph's wife; mother of Jesus

Joseph: Mary's husband; father of Jesus

Jesus

John the Baptist: Jesus' cousin and preacher

Voice of Angel

Narrator

Narrator: The story takes place in the city kingdom of Judea.....While awaiting marriage to Joseph, Mary is visited by an angel.

Voice of Angel: Don't be afraid Mary, God has blessed you among all women, and you will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus, and he will be great and will be called the son of God.

Joseph: (sounding upset), I can not marry a pregnant women.

Voice of Angel: Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For it is by the Holy Spirit that she conceived. So Joseph married Mary as the angel had instructed.

Narrator: Herod the King of Judea felt threatened by the child and ordered it to killed.

Herod the King: The male child born will all be killed in order to rid ourselves of this special child.

Narrator: To escape the wrath of the king, Joseph and Mary took the baby to Egypt, where they lived until Herod the King died and an angel told them to go to the land of Galilee. The family obeyed and made their home in the town of Nazareth. Jesus grew up to manhood in Nazareth, where he worked as a carpenter along side his father Joseph. At the same time Jesus had a cousin John the Baptist, was preaching around Galilee.

John the Baptist: Get ready for the Lord! He is coming. I baptize those who wish, but there is one who comes is greater than all.

Narrator: When Jesus was about thirty years old he began his work, teaching people about God His Father. He taught many things and answered many questions. He also performed many miracles, including healing the sick and raising the dead. Some Jewish leaders resented Jesus and some of his teachings and reported him to the Roman authorities. Betrayed by Judas, one of his apostles, Jesus was taken into Roman custody and charged with claiming to be the Messiah, foretold by the Jewish prophets. Failing to argue against charges, Jesus was mailed to a cross to die. This was called the crucifixion. Jesus body was buried, but three days later the tomb was empty. He had risen from the dead and began appearing to his followers. He remained with them, teaching until he was taken into heaven. His followers, then, continued his work and began the religion of Christianity.