

The Nativity





The Birth of the Lord Jesus Christ

Written by a Mighty Angels Servant

Once upon a time there lived a young maiden named Mary in the City of Nazareth. A young maiden is a lady who is not married. The Angel of the Lord, named Archangel Gabriel, came to her one day and said, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"

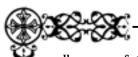
St Mary did not know what the archangel meant so he continued to say, "Do not be afraid Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Lord Jesus Christ. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest." St Mary was not sure how this was going to occur so the Archangel Gabriel said, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God."

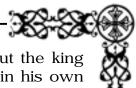
So, St Mary went to visit her cousin, St Elizabeth, who was also with child. St Elizabeth was to also have a son, St John the Baptist. Even though St John the Baptist was in his mother's womb at the time of St Mary's visit, he jumped joyfully inside his mother. Then the Holy Spirit filled St Elizabeth and she recognized that in front of her was St Mary, the mother of God.

Afterwards, St Mary returned home and in the

23







ullness of time, would give birth. But the king wanted everyone to go and register in his own city. So, St Joseph the carpenter, the one in whose care St Mary was given, took her to a small town called Bethlehem. In Bethlehem, they looked for a place to stay but there was not a room in an inn anywhere. Finally, they found a lowly shelter for animals and chose to stay the night there. St Mary gave birth to the Son of God in a manger. She named Him, "Jesus" who was to become the Lord Jesus Christ, the Anointed Holy One of God.

At the same time of the Holy birth, an angel appeared to the humble shepherds that were watching their sheep and told them that in the City of David, in the small town of Bethlehem, there was born a Savior and suddenly a great number of heavenly angels appeared and said, "Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on earth, good will to men."

Afterwards, from the East, came three wise men following a great and brilliantly shining star in the sky. They came bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gold was a symbol that the Lord Jesus Christ was the King of all kings. The frankincense was a symbol that He was the High Priest of all mankind. The myrrh was the symbol that the Lord Jesus Christ would face the pain and sorrow of the Holy Cross.

All this occurred on the very first Holy Nativity. The day our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ was born.

(The Holy Gospel of St Luke, chapters 1 and 2)

