

# SUPERMAN SHEPHERD KING

## The Christmas backstory

Hebrews 10:26-27 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left,<sup>27</sup> but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. NIV

## Zechariah and Elizabeth

Luke 1:17 [An angel of the Lord said,] “And [John (the Baptist)] will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous—to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

Luke 1:43 [Elizabeth said to Mary,] “But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”

## Mary

Luke 1:30-33 But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup> and he will reign over Jacob’s descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.”

Luke 1:35 The angel answered [Mary], “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”

## Joseph

Matthew 1:20-21 But after [Joseph] had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus,<sup>[f]</sup> because he will save his people from their sins.”

*f: “Jesus” is the Greek form of “Joshua,” which means “the Lord saves.”*

Matthew 1:22-23 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”<sup>[g]</sup> (which means “God with us”).  
*g: Isaiah 7:14*

## Shepherds

Luke 2:10-11 [An angel of the Lord said to the shepherds,] “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”

## Simeon

Luke 2:26 It had been revealed to [Simeon] by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.

Messiah:

## Magi/Wise men

Matthew 2:1-2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi[a] from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

*a. Traditionally “wise men”*

Matthew 2: 5-6 “In Bethlehem in Judea,” [the chief priests and teachers of the law] replied [to Herod], “for this is what the prophet has written:

<sup>6</sup> ““But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for out of you will come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel.””

John 10:11-15 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup> The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. <sup>14</sup> I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father — and I lay down my life for the sheep.” NIV

## What was the problem?

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