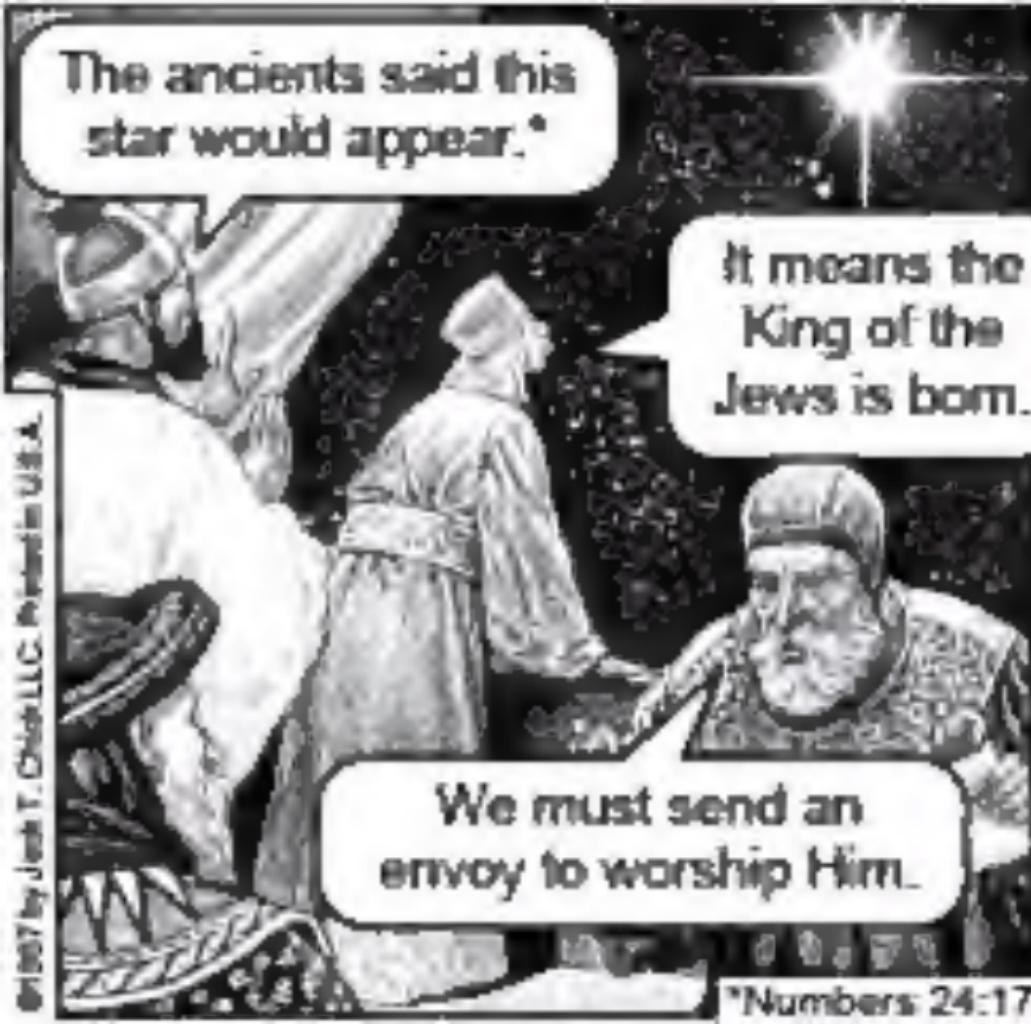




**THE
GREATEST STORY
EVER TOLD**

J.T.C.



The ancients said this star would appear.*

I will organize a caravan immediately.

It means the King of the Jews is born.

We must send an envoy to worship Him.

What an honor to actually look upon the Promised One.

See Matthew 1-2, and Luke 1-2.

A great caravan was prepared.



It would be a long and
dangerous journey.

The wise men followed the
star, bringing gifts.



But let's go back to the beginning.

Before earth was formed, a great plan was set in motion, *involving you!*

In outer space was a power source composed of three distinct personalities.



The holy scriptures call them the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost (God the Holy Spirit).

This "Godhead" is the true and living God.



"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." 1 John 5:7

It was here this plan originates.

The number two person of the Godhead (The Word) created the universe.

The Bible says: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." John 1:1, 3



"The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us..." John 1:14

This was the Great One the wise men were coming to see.

Around 700 B.C., the prophet Isaiah said:

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign;

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son...

and shall call his name Immanuel."

Isaiah 7:14

*Which means, "God with us" (Matt. 1:23).

700 years later, Jerusalem was under the control of Rome...



and the Jews begged God to send the Messiah, the Promised One.

The angel Gabriel visited a virgin named Mary, who was engaged...

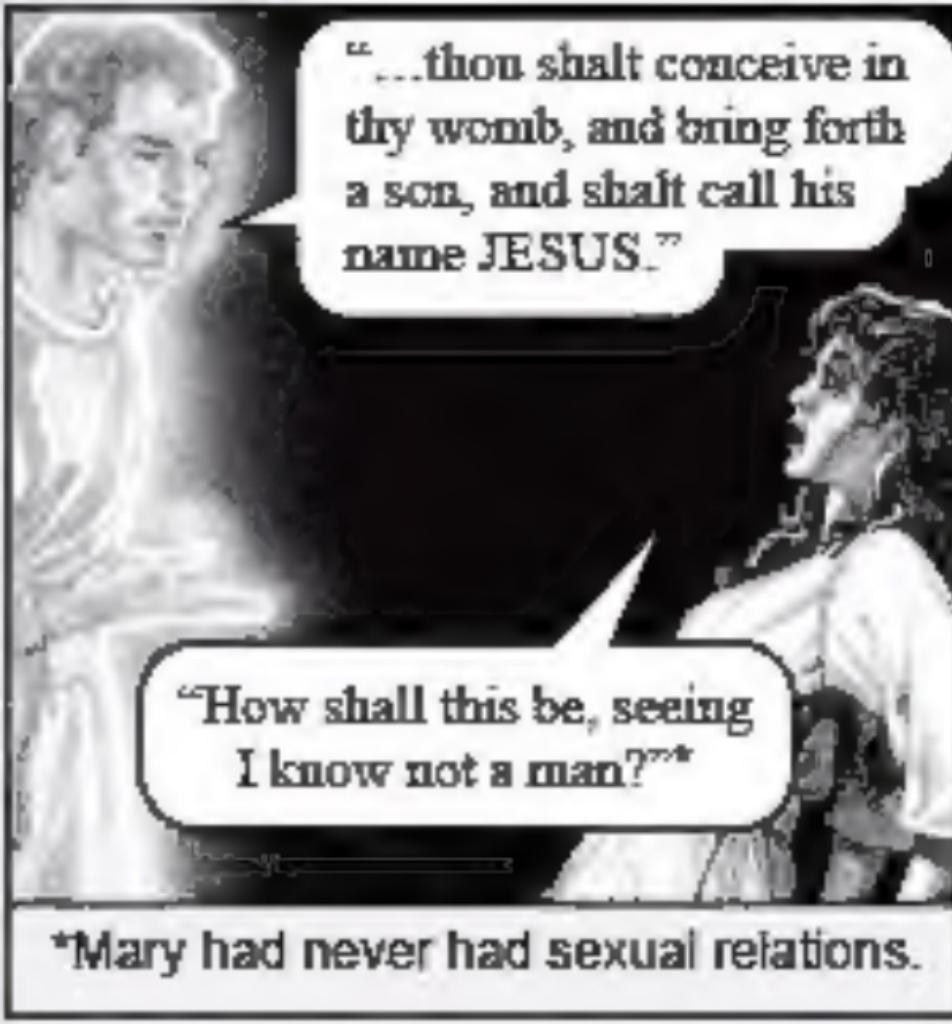


to Joseph
of the house of David, and said...

"Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God."



The world would never be the same.



"...thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS."

"How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?"

*Mary had never had sexual relations.

"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee...

and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee."

The angel told Mary her child would be called the "Son of God."

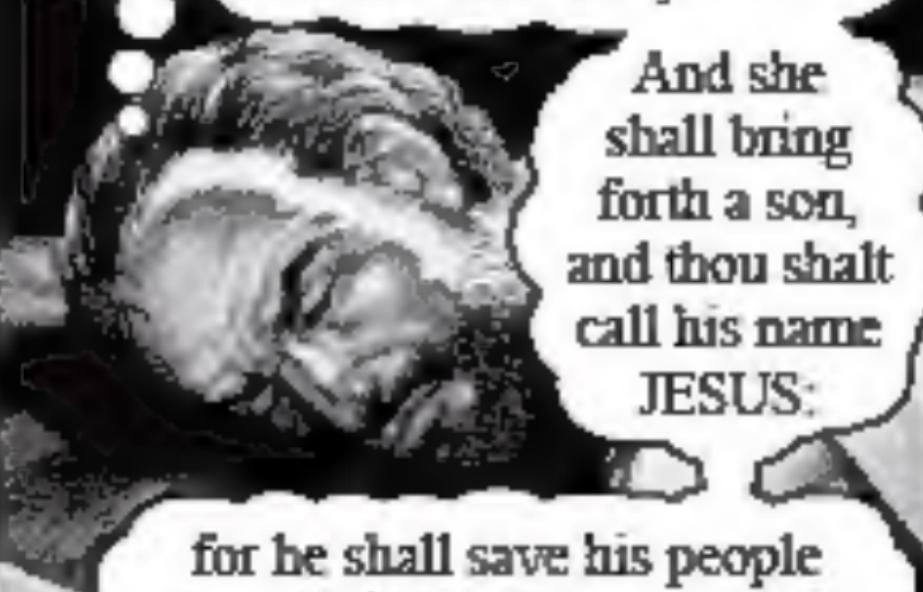


"...be it unto me according to thy word."

"For with God nothing shall be impossible." Luke 1:37

Joseph was troubled until God told him in a dream to take Mary as his wife...

"...for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.



And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS:

for he shall save his people from their sins." Matt. 1:20-21

Caesar Augustus decreed that all the world should be taxed, so Joseph went to Bethlehem to register.*



"Luke 2:1

God's hand was in this.

Mary and Joseph travelled 80 dangerous miles to get there.



The Bible prophesied that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem. (Micah 5:1-2)

Mary was ready to bring forth her first born
but Bethlehem was overflowing with people
There was no room at the inn!



They were forced to stay in a smelly stable



Far to the east the caravan was still following the star

THE CHILD WAS BORN!



This incredible, unlimited Spirit,
who is God, clothed Himself with
a frail human body

Nearby shepherds were watching
over their flocks when

"the angel of the Lord
came upon them, and the
glory of the Lord shone
round about them"



And the angel said...

"For unto you is born
this day in the city of
David a Saviour which
is Christ the Lord."

Ye shall find the babe
wrapped in swaddling
clothes, lying in a manger."

Suddenly a multitude of angels appeared saying, "Glory to God
in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

The shepherds went and found the child in Bethlehem. (See Luke 2)

When the caravan finally reached Jerusalem months later the wise men visited King Herod.

Where is he that is born King of the Jews?

GASP!

Could it be Christ was born and Herod knew nothing about it?

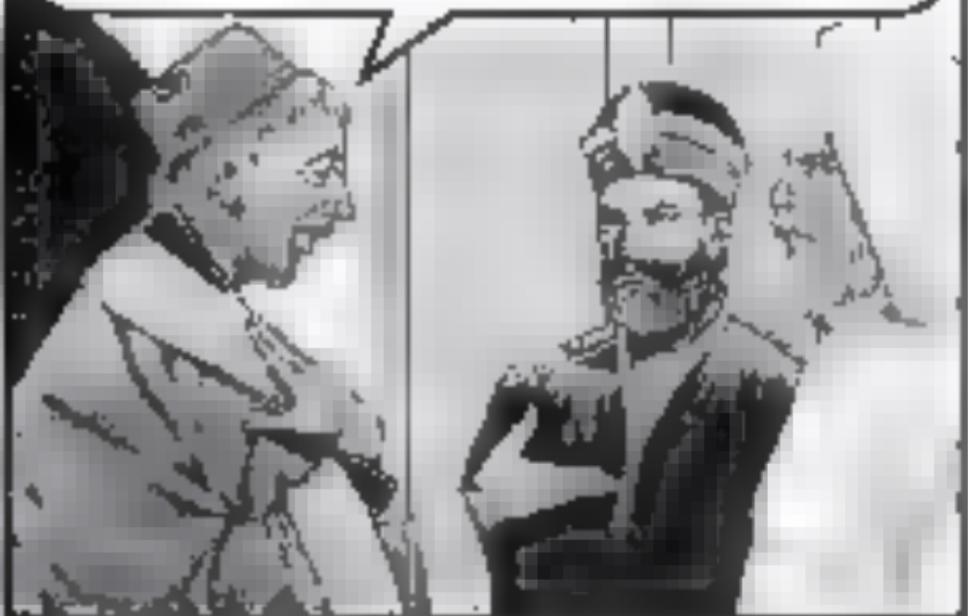
Herod asked his advisor:

Where is Christ to be born?

In Bethlehem your Highness

Herod immediately plotted to kill the Christ so he could stay in power

When you find the child, bring me word so I can worship him also



The star led the wise men to the house where Jesus was.

"they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped HIM"



And they brought him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

God told Joseph to flee to Egypt



because Herod was furious and wanted little Jesus dead.

Herod sent soldiers to Bethlehem to kill **All** the boys two and under



This satanic crime also fulfilled prophecy (Matt. 2:18)

When Herod died, the family returned to Nazareth.

At age 12, Jesus astonished
the religious leaders

How can this child know so much
about our laws?



Little did they know that they were
talking to the God who gave those
laws to Moses (See John 1:10)

Every year, Jesus saw an innocent
Passover lamb killed. Like the lamb,
Jesus was pure. He NEVER sinned!^a



^a1 Peter 2:22

^bJohn 1:29

Jesus knew that at age 33 He would
become that Passover "lamb"^{***}

At age 30,
the Lord
Jesus Christ
began His
earthly
ministry
(Luke 3:23)



"In Him (Jesus)
was life, and the
life was the light of
men. And the light
shineth in darkness,
and the darkness
comprehended it
not" John 1:4-5

That was the greatest life ever lived!

He healed the sick, raised the dead,
cast out demons, and preached
repentance and forgiveness.



"For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved "

John 3:17

Jesus told why He came to earth



"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life " John 3:16

Jesus exposed the corrupt religious leaders.

"Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers (snakes)..."

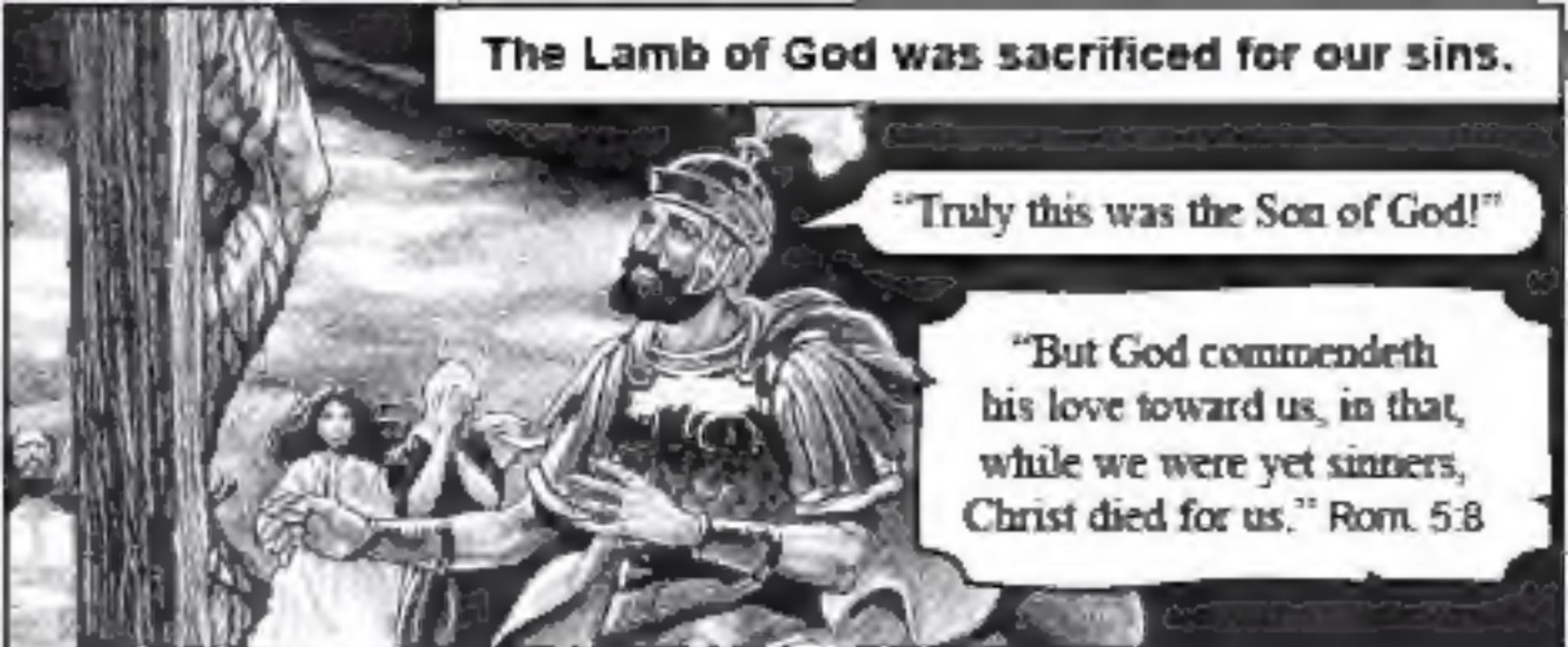
how can ye escape the damnation of hell?"

In their hatred, they fulfilled prophecy by hatching a plot to kill Him. (Isaiah 53:7-12)

Jesus shook the religious world with these words:

"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, *but by Me.*"
John 14:6

He was falsely accused, tried by a rigged jury and sentenced to death.



The Lamb of God was sacrificed for our sins.

"Truly this was the Son of God!"

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8

Jesus was buried and three days later rose from the dead.
Because of His sacrifice, anyone can now receive the gift of eternal life.

You can receive eternal life right now by placing your trust in Jesus Christ.

Lord, I know I'm a sinner. I repent and believe You died for me...

Please come into my heart and save me.



"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Romans 10:13

If you have received Christ, you will live forever with Him in heaven.



This is the greatest story ever told.

THE BIBLE SAYS THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN!

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

NOBODY ELSE CAN SAVE YOU. TRUST JESUS TODAY!

"That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Rom. 10:9

1. Admit you are a sinner. See Romans 3:10
2. Be willing to turn from sin (repent). See Acts 17:30
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you, was buried and rose from the dead. See Rom. 10:9-10
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus into your heart to become your personal Saviour. See Rom. 10:13

WHAT TO PRAY

Dear God, I am a sinner and need forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ shed His precious blood and died for my sin. I am willing to turn from sin. I now invite Christ to come into my heart as my personal Saviour.

If you trusted Jesus as your Saviour, you have just begun a wonderful new life with Him. Now:

1. Read your Bible (KJV) every day to get to know Jesus Christ better.
2. Talk to God in prayer every day.
3. Be baptized, worship, fellowship, and serve with other Christians in a church where Christ is preached and the Bible is the final authority.
4. Tell others about Jesus Christ.

Here's help to grow as a new Christian! Read *The Next Step*, available at www.chick.com.

