

John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him, shall not perish but have everlasting life."



The Story of Christmas.

Just to review:
1) God made the world and all that is in it including us.
2) We have sinned, do sin and will continue sinning making us separate from God.
3) God cannot tolerate any sin in heaven.
4) There is no way for us to be restored to God on our own.
5) The omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, all-loving eternal God has provided a Way, Jesus, who was brought into the world not as a statey king but a helpless Babe born in poverty, predicted and told in the Jewish Old Testament.

There were about four hundred years where God was silent to mankind between the writing of the Old and New Testaments. The New Testament is the telling of the fulfillment of the Christmas Story as we know it today is a mixing of the New Testament books of Matthew and Luke.



Merry Christmas to All and to All a Blessed Night

Just remember, the most important part of being a Christian is to know and believe that:

God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus, to earth to pay for all of our sins, (past, present and future), by dying on the cross, being buried then resurrected on the third day.

Boswellia sacra (commonly known as **frankincense** is native to the Arabian Peninsula (Oman, Yemen), and horn of Africa (Somalia). an aromatic resin used in incense and perfumes, obtained from trees of the genus *Boswellia* in the family Burseraceae. The word is from Old French *franc encens* ('high-quality incense').



The Christmas Story

Timing of Jesus' Birth

Prophecy

Daniel 9:25-26

Fulfillment

Matthew 2:1-2, 1 Peter 2:24-25

Jesus is the fulfillment of the 69 weeks as prophesied in the book of Daniel.

The Christmas Story

Giving of Gifts

Prophecy

Psalms 72:10-11

Fulfillment

Matthew 2:11

The Wise Men bowed down to baby Jesus and honored Him by giving Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Jesus, the eternal One, Who created the universe and everything in it, paid the ultimate price for us. He did this by stepping down from Heaven, coming into this world as a baby, the most vulnerable of humans. He lived as fully man (the Son of Man) and fully God (the Son of God), to grow up, teach us and die for us like no one else could. He was the perfect sacrifice.



Frankincense – an important acknowledgement of the **Priesthood of Jesus, setting Him apart from typical kings.** Frankincense was used in the temple routines, burned ceremonially by the priests. Precious in both meaning and value to worship Him.

Jesus is predicted in Isaiah as the Prince of Peace and fulfilled in Luke as He reads the scroll of Isaiah to the people of Nazareth.

Luke 4:18

Fulfillment

Isaiah 9:6-7, 61:1

Prophecy

The Christmas Story
Jesus is filled with power, peace and the Spirit at birth.

The Star of Bethlehem led the Magi from where they were to baby Jesus in the manger.

Matthew 2:1-2

Fulfillment

Numbers 24:17

Prophecy

The Christmas Story
The Star points the way

Why do we give gifts?

This tradition probably came from what the Wise Men or Magi gave Jesus to honor Him; gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Isaiah 60:6b

"They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall bring the good news, the praises of the Lord."

The Magi travelled hundreds of miles, led by God's star, to bow before Jesus, a baby they did not know, born in a manger.



But they knew He was sent by God to be our Messiah.



The Christmas Story

Born in Bethlehem

Prophecy

Micah 5:2

Fulfillment

Luke 2:10-11

Mary, with child in Nazareth, had to go to Bethlehem to be registered with Joseph.