

THE Story

Script

0:00:18.0 Speaker 1: In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, along with all the living creatures that inhabit this living planet. And then as a grand finale, his opus magnum, God created the human race, he created them in His image, but in time, in time, the human race which has the freedom to choose as God chooses became a rebel race, but God is love. So he used his freedom to set in motion a plan designed to redeem and restore his image bearers without removing his image. God's plan began with a man, Abraham, whose family would eventually become an entire nation, and God promised Abraham that through his descendants, God would eventually send a savior to address once and for all the source and the consequences of sin in the world. But when? Centuries passed, kingdoms rose and fell, sin rolled through creation like a tsunami polluting and corrupting everything it touched. And just when it seemed that nothing would ever change, that God's promise to Abraham would not be kept, everything changed. When the set time had fully come, once God had everything and everyone in place, he sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that God's image-bearing race might receive adoption to sonship.

[pause]

0:02:26.3 S1: Now, this is how the birth of Jesus, the Messiah, finally came about. God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a young girl pledged by her parents to be married to a man named Joseph who was a descendant of Abraham, and the young girl's name was Mary. The Angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored, the Lord is with you." But of course, Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered, "What is happening? Is this even happening? Am I dreaming?" But the angel smiled and said to her, "Mary, do not be afraid. You have found favor with God. The promise you and your people have longed to see fulfilled is being fulfilled through you. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus, and He will be the great one, and He will be called the Son of the Most High." "But how can this be?" Mary asked, "How can I have a baby? Joseph and I are not even..." But the angel interrupted and said, "It has all been arranged, and your son will be called the Son of God." For no word from God will ever fail Mary. No promise from God will go un-kept. Mary fell to her knees and declared, "I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled." But when she looked up, the angel was gone.

0:04:01.4 S1: And just as the angel had said, a baby began to grow in Mary's womb, as she was both amazed and terrified, who would believe her story? As the time for the birth of the baby drew near, the