



Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24

6:00pm-7:30pm-9:00pm

The Light of
the world!





The INCARNATION:

Christ Jesus, **6** who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, **7** but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. Philippians 2:5-7

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Theologian J.I. Packer has said:

"Here are two mysteries for the price of one--the plurality of persons within the unity of God, and the union of Godhead and manhood in the person of Jesus. ...Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as is this truth of the Incarnation,"



In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, 27 to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. 28 Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!"

Luke 1 :26-28



29 Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. 30 "Don't be frightened, Mary," the angel told her, "for God has decided to bless you!"

Luke 1:29,30



You will become pregnant and have a son, and you are to name him Jesus. 32 He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. 33 And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" Luke 1:31-33




Mary asked the angel, "But how can I have a baby? I am a virgin."

Luke 1:34



"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby born to you will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. 36 What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she's already in her sixth month. 37 For nothing is impossible with God."

Luke 1:35-37



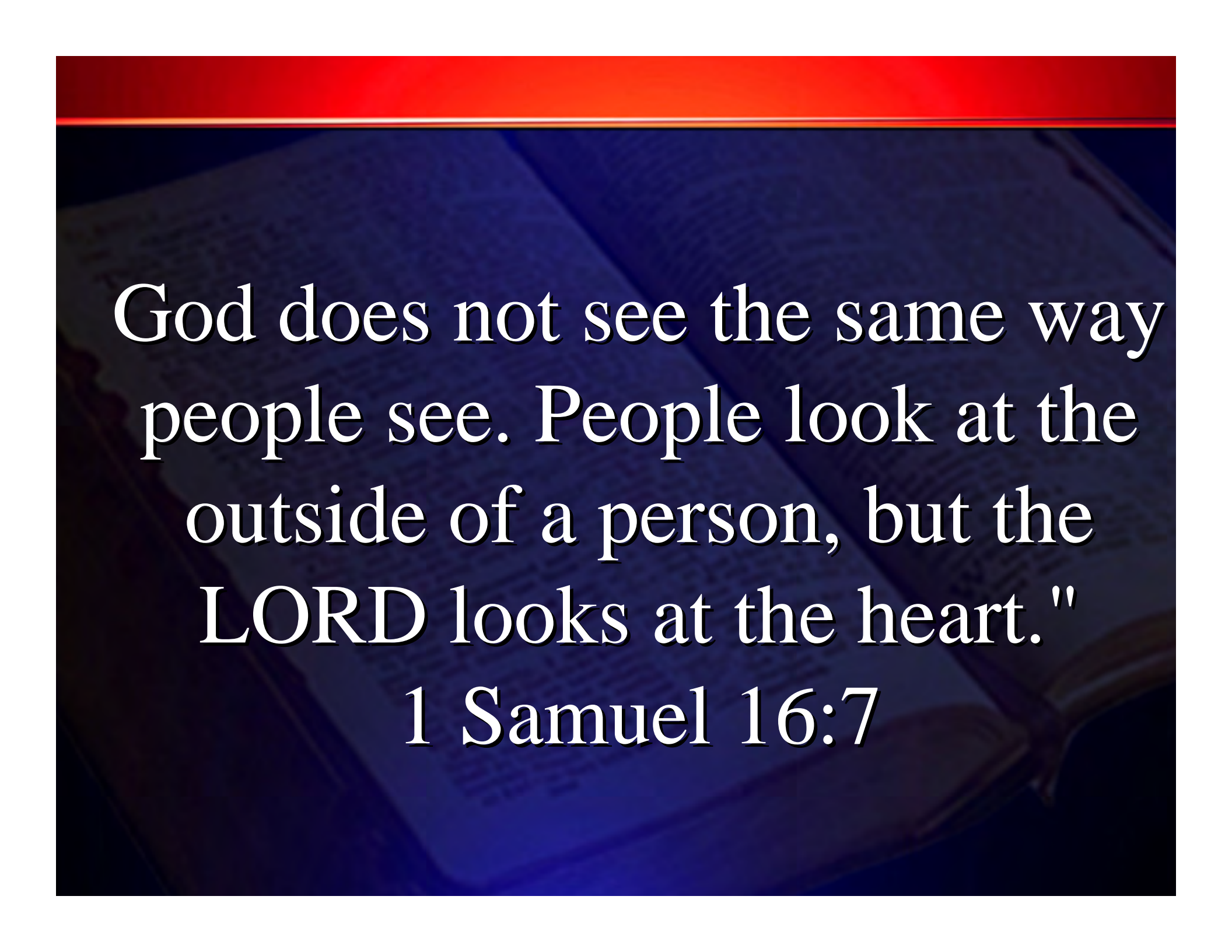
Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant, and I am willing to accept whatever he wants. May everything you have said come true." And then the angel left.

Luke 1:38



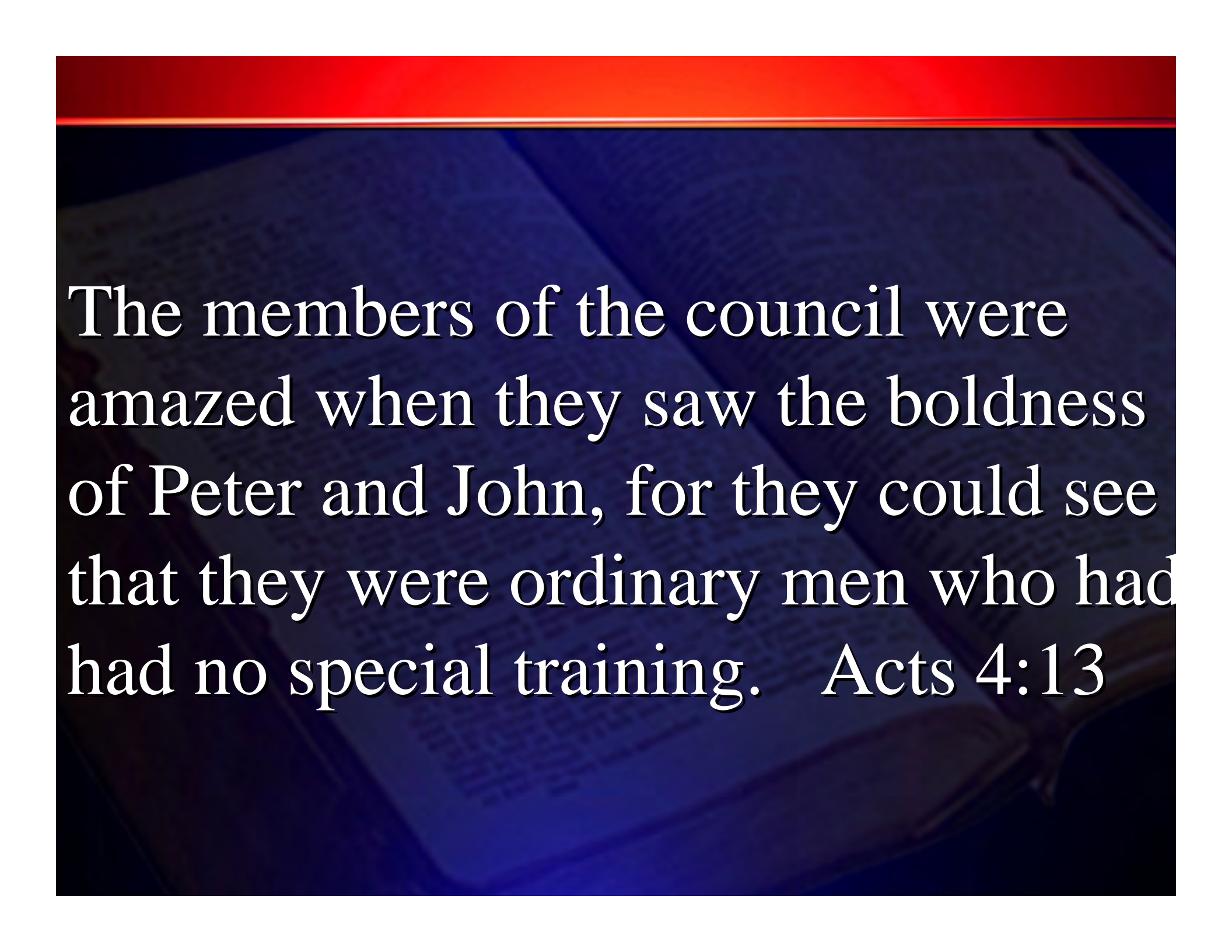
1. God is looking for your
COMPLETE YES.



The background of the slide features a dark blue, textured surface that resembles an open book with pages. A prominent red horizontal bar is located at the top of the image. The text is centered and rendered in a white, serif font with a subtle drop shadow.

God does not see the same way
people see. People look at the
outside of a person, but the
LORD looks at the heart."

1 Samuel 16:7



The members of the council were amazed when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, for they could see that they were ordinary men who had had no special training. Acts 4:13

This is how the birth of Jesus the
Messiah came about: His mother
Mary was pledged to be married to
Joseph, ... Matthew 1:18a



but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

19 Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in **mind to divorce her quietly.**

Matthew 1:18b-19



20 While Joseph was thinking about this



an angel from the Lord came to him in a dream. The angel said, "Joseph, the baby that Mary will have is from the Holy Spirit. Go ahead and marry her. **21** Then after her baby is born, name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew 1:20,21



24 After Joseph woke up, he and Mary were soon married, just as the Lord's angel had told him to do.

25 But they did not sleep together before her baby was born. Then Joseph named him Jesus.





2. God is looking for people
who trust him in the
tougher details
in life.

At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire.... 3 All returned to their own towns to register for this census. Luke 2:1,3



But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
are only a small village in Judah. Yet
a ruler of Israel will come from you,
one whose origins are from the
distant past. Micah 5:2





We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him. They are the ones God has chosen for his purpose, 29 and he has always known who his chosen ones would be. He had decided to let them become like his own Son, Romans 8:28,29



3. We have to consciously
make room for God
in our lives.

"And she laid Him in the manger because there was no room for them in the inn."

Luke 2:7



WHY IS THERE NO ROOM AT
YOUR INN?

Selfishness



WHY IS THERE NO ROOM AT
YOUR INN?

Busyness



WHY IS THERE NO ROOM AT
YOUR INN?

Fear
of losing the control



Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. ...⁷
Then Herod sent a private message to the wise men, asking them to come see him. At this meeting he learned the exact time when they first saw the star. ⁸ Then he told them, “Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!” ...



¹² But when it was time to leave, they (the Wise Men) went home another way, because God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.



Herod was furious when he learned that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, ...17 Herod's brutal action fulfilled the prophecy of Jeremiah:



Here's the principal:

**No one gives up thrones
without a fight.**



The message of this story is not that
there was no room in the inn.

The message of this story is that Jesus
will enter wherever He's invited.



“Keep on asking. You’ll be given what you ask for. I keep on looking and you will find. Keep on knocking and the door will be opened.”

Matthew 7:7



**They ran to the village and found
Mary and Joseph. And there was the
baby, lying in the manger. Luke 2:16**



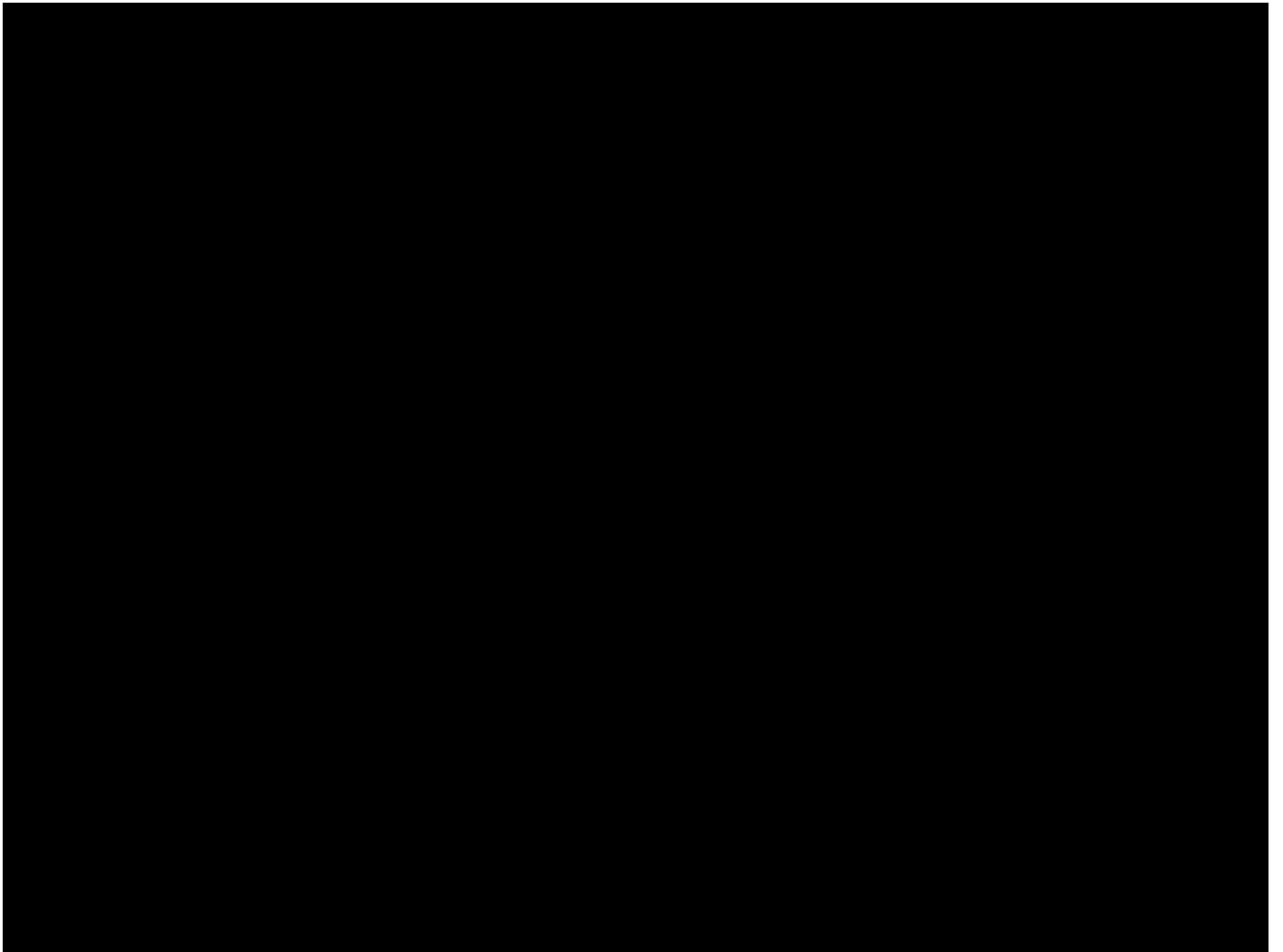
The shepherds went back to their fields and flocks, glorifying and praising God for what the angels had told them, and because they had seen the child, just as the angel had said. Luke 2:20



Theologian Dallas Willard wrote, “What it means to glorify God with your life:

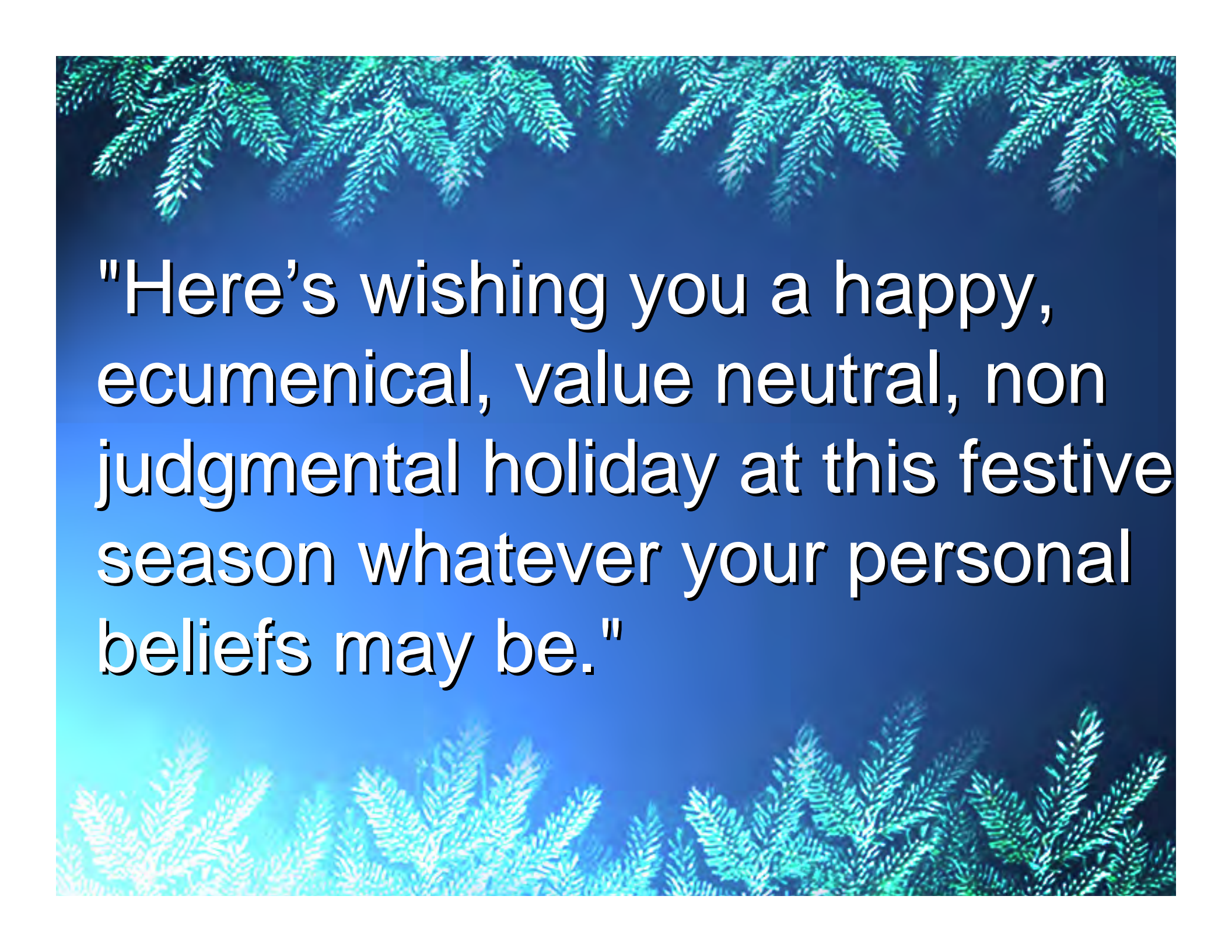
It means to live in such a way that when people look at your life, they say, “What a good God God must be to think up somebody like you.”



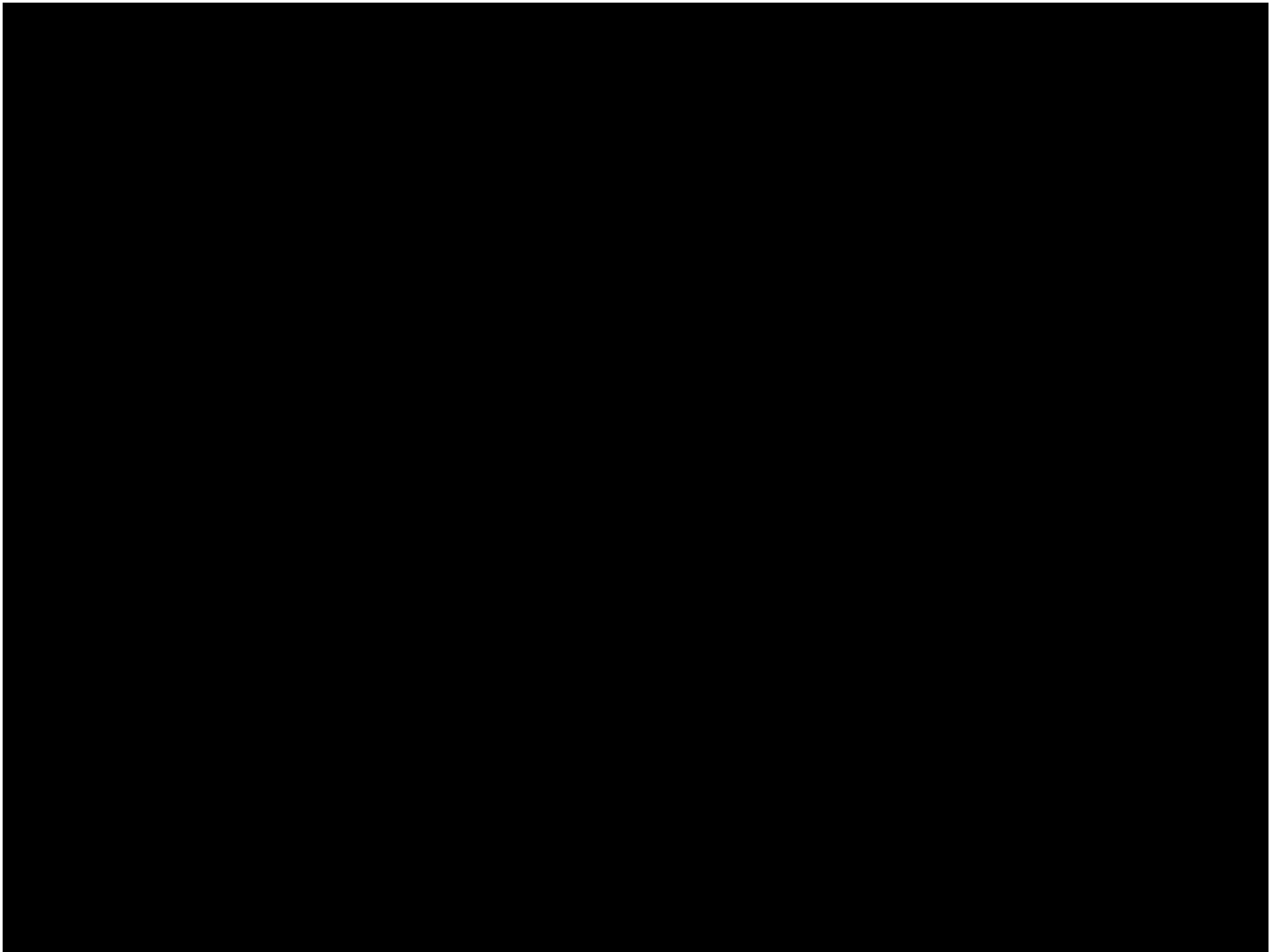


After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. 18 All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, Luke 2:17,18





"Here's wishing you a happy, ecumenical, value neutral, non judgmental holiday at this festive season whatever your personal beliefs may be."



He is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before God made anything at all and is supreme over all creation... Everything has been created through him and for him. 17 He existed before everything else began, and he holds all creation together.

Colossians 1:15,17



For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. Isaiah 9:6,7



but the angel reassured them.
“Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring
you good news that will bring great
joy to all people. **11** The
Savior—yes, the Messiah, the
Lord—has been born today in
Bethlehem, the city of David!
Luke 2:10,11



