



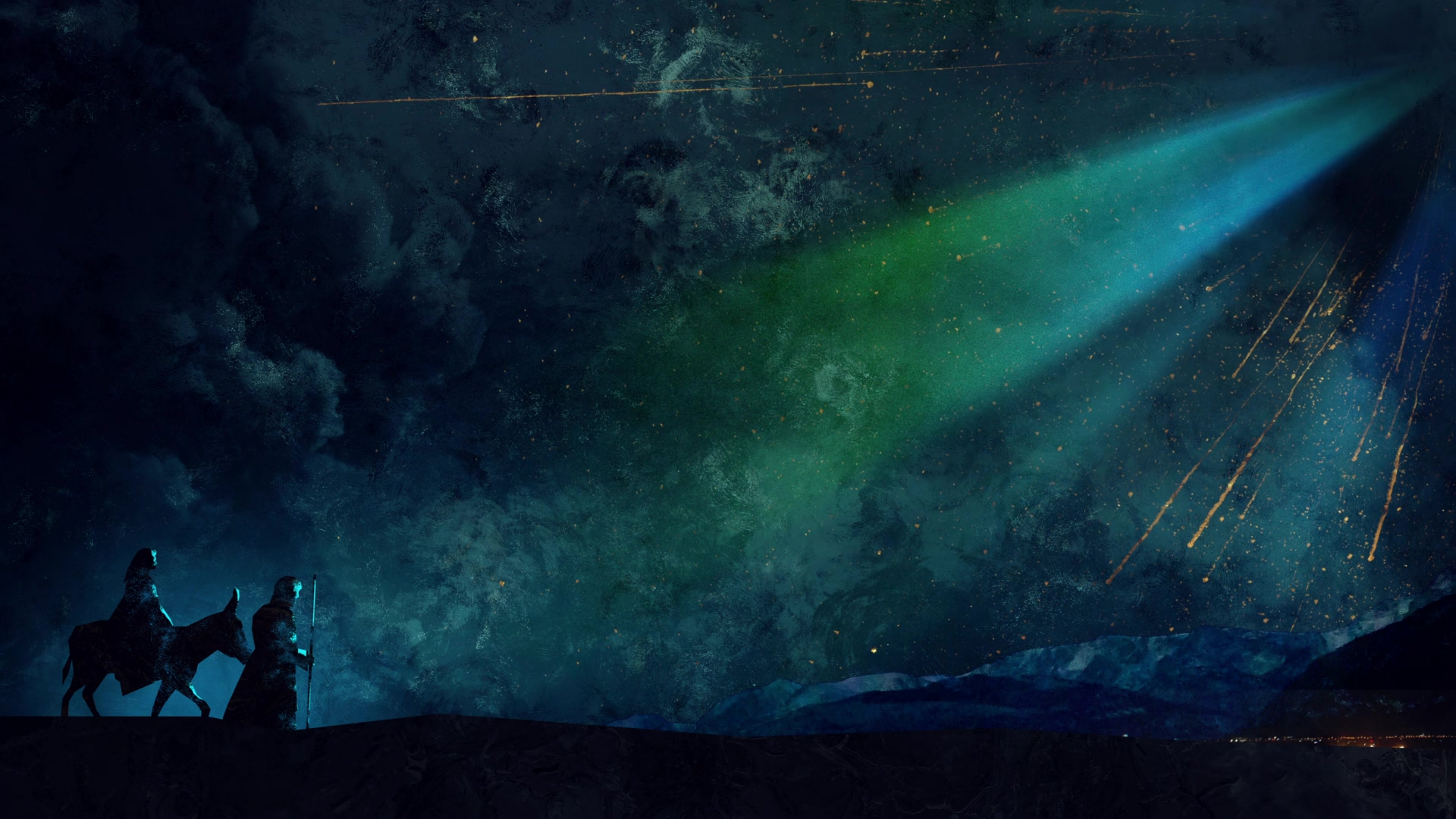
Merry Christmas



Merry Christmas

Luke 2:1-14





⁵ One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. ⁶ Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord.

Romans 14:5-6



Merry Christmas

Luke 2:1-14

¹ At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire.

² (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.)



³ All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. ⁴ And because Joseph was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee.



⁵ He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. ⁷ She gave birth to her firstborn son.



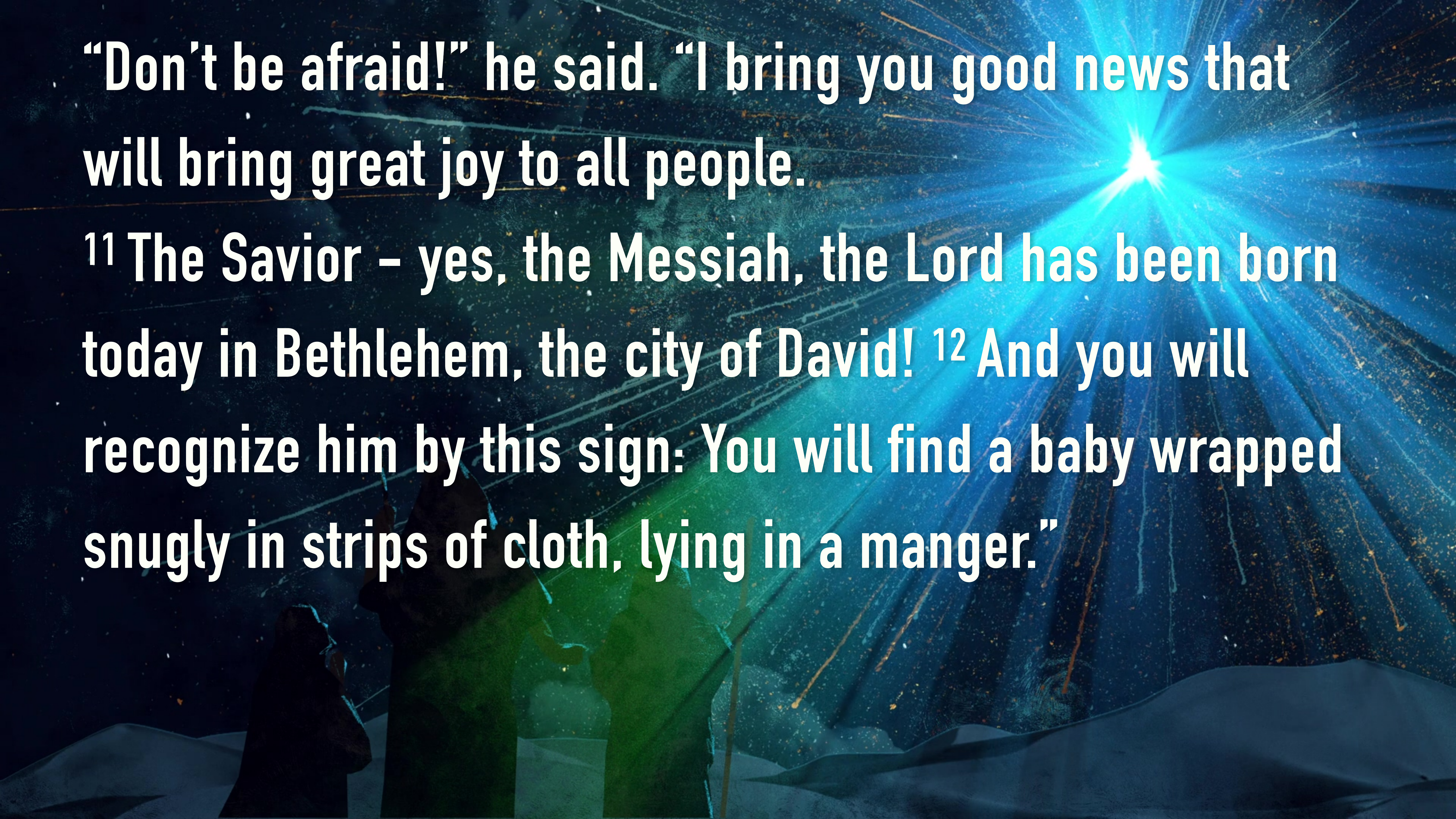
She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them.



A dramatic night scene with a bright blue starburst in the sky and silhouettes of people in the foreground. The scene is set in a dark, possibly desert-like environment with rolling hills in the background. In the foreground, the silhouettes of several people are visible, looking up towards the sky. The overall atmosphere is one of awe and wonder.

⁸ That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep.

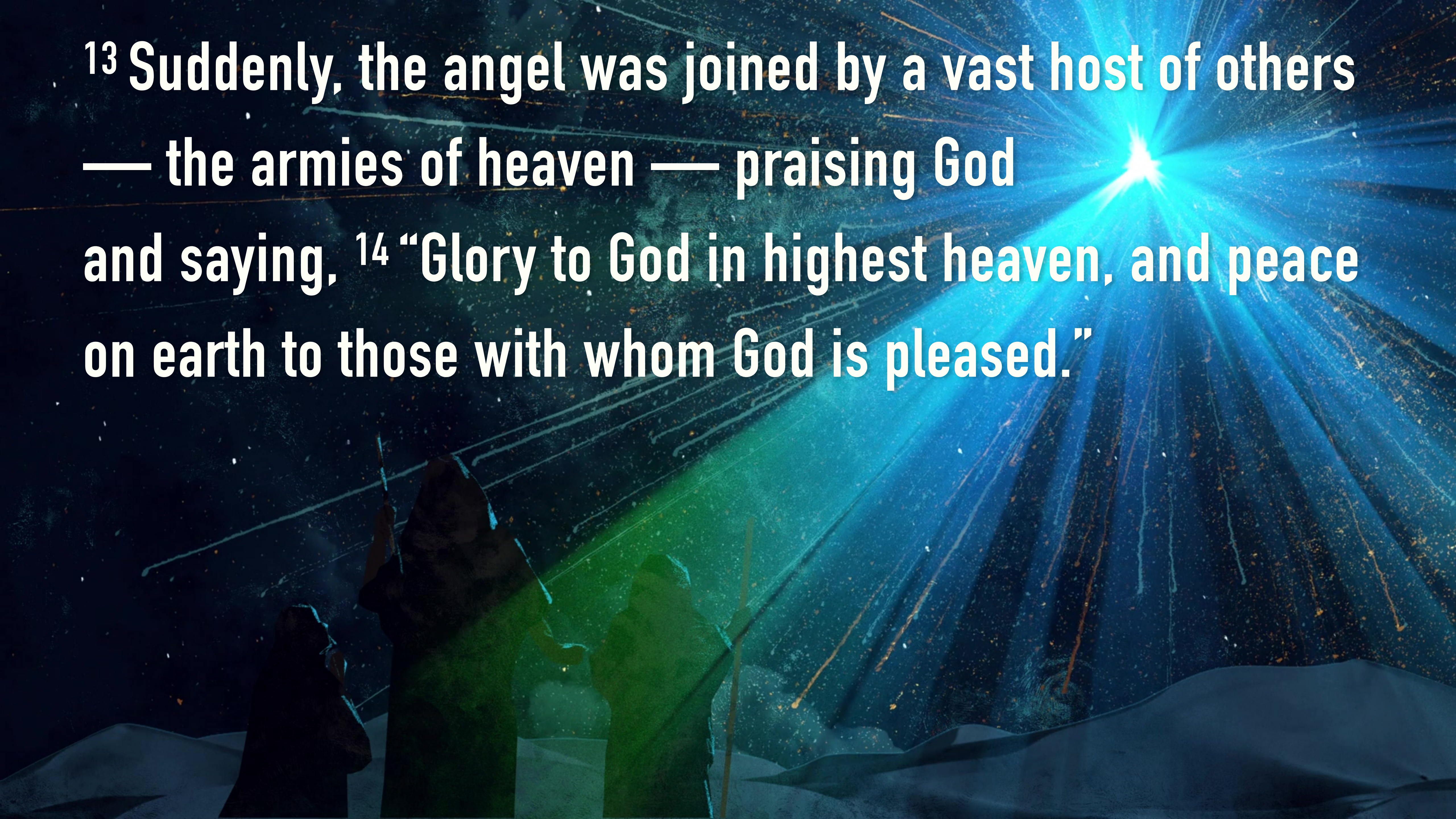
⁹ Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, ¹⁰ but the angel reassured them.

A dramatic night scene with a bright star in the sky. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted figures, possibly shepherds, looking up at the star. The sky is dark blue with streaks of light and a bright, glowing star in the upper right corner. The overall mood is awe and wonder.

“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! ¹² And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger.”

**13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others
— the armies of heaven — praising God
and saying, 14 “Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace
on earth to those with whom God is pleased.”**



Awe (noun)

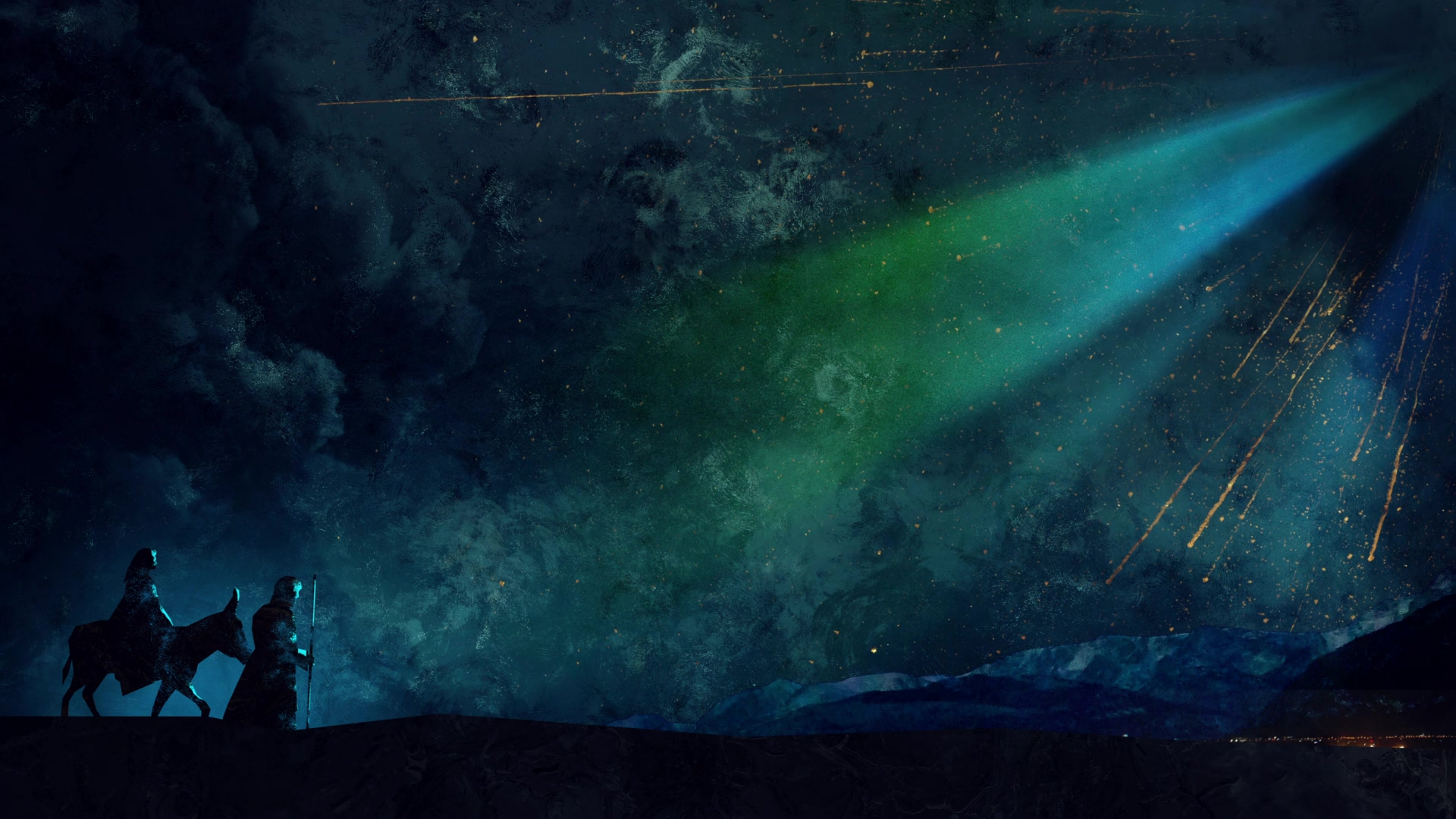
An overwhelming feeling of reverence, admiration, fear, etc., produced by that which is grand, sublime, extremely powerful, or the like.



Experience the Christmas Story with Awe

**But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small
among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me
one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from
of old, from ancient times.**

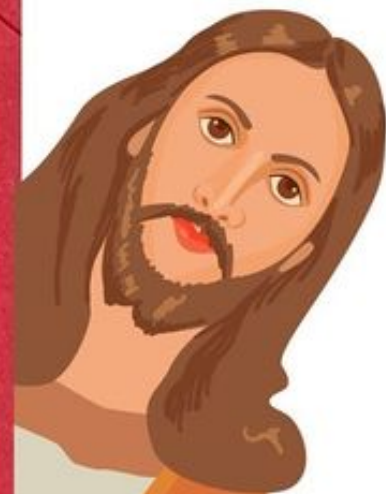
Micah 5:2



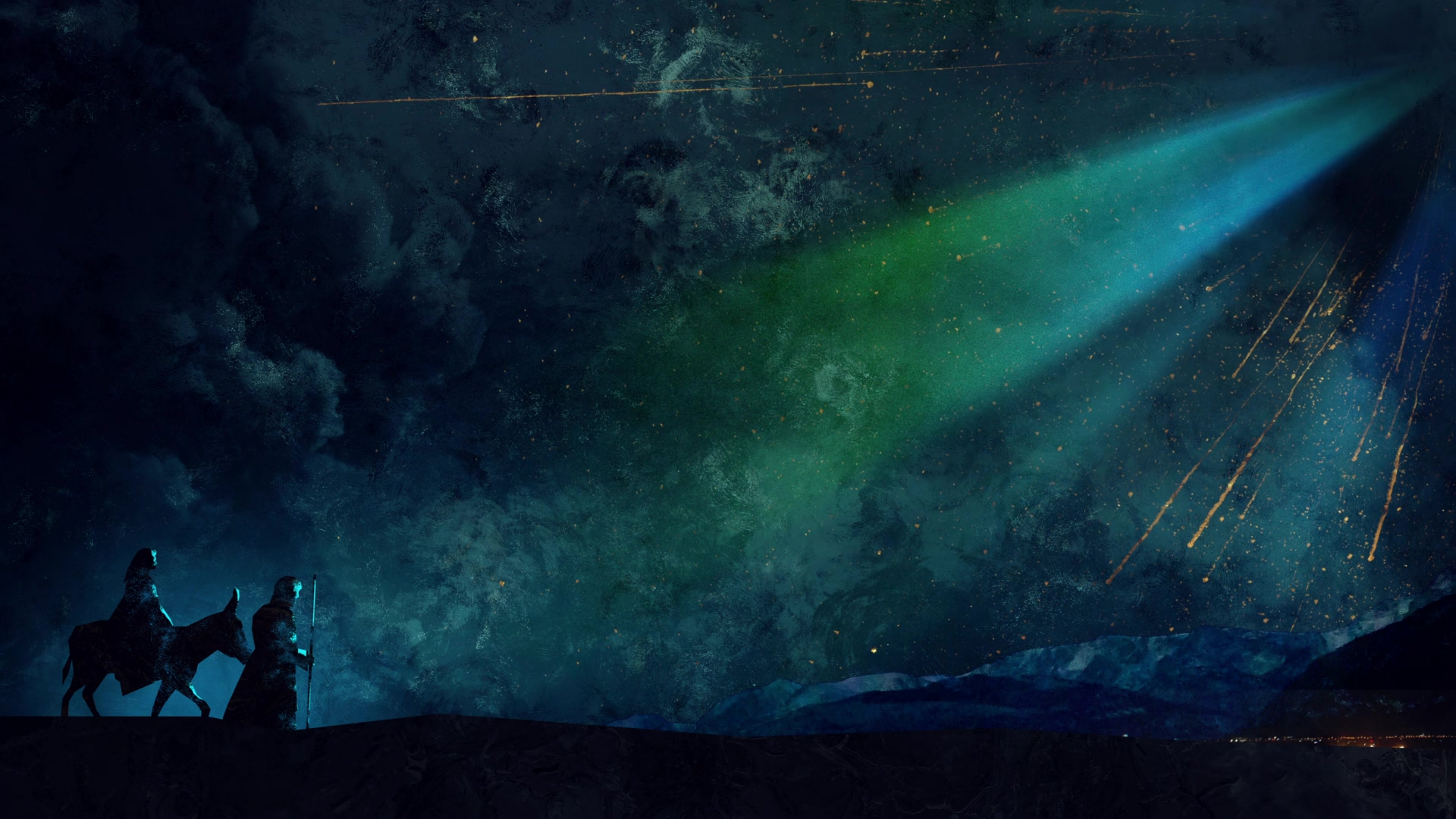


Why is Christmas Necessary?

WE
SAW
THAT







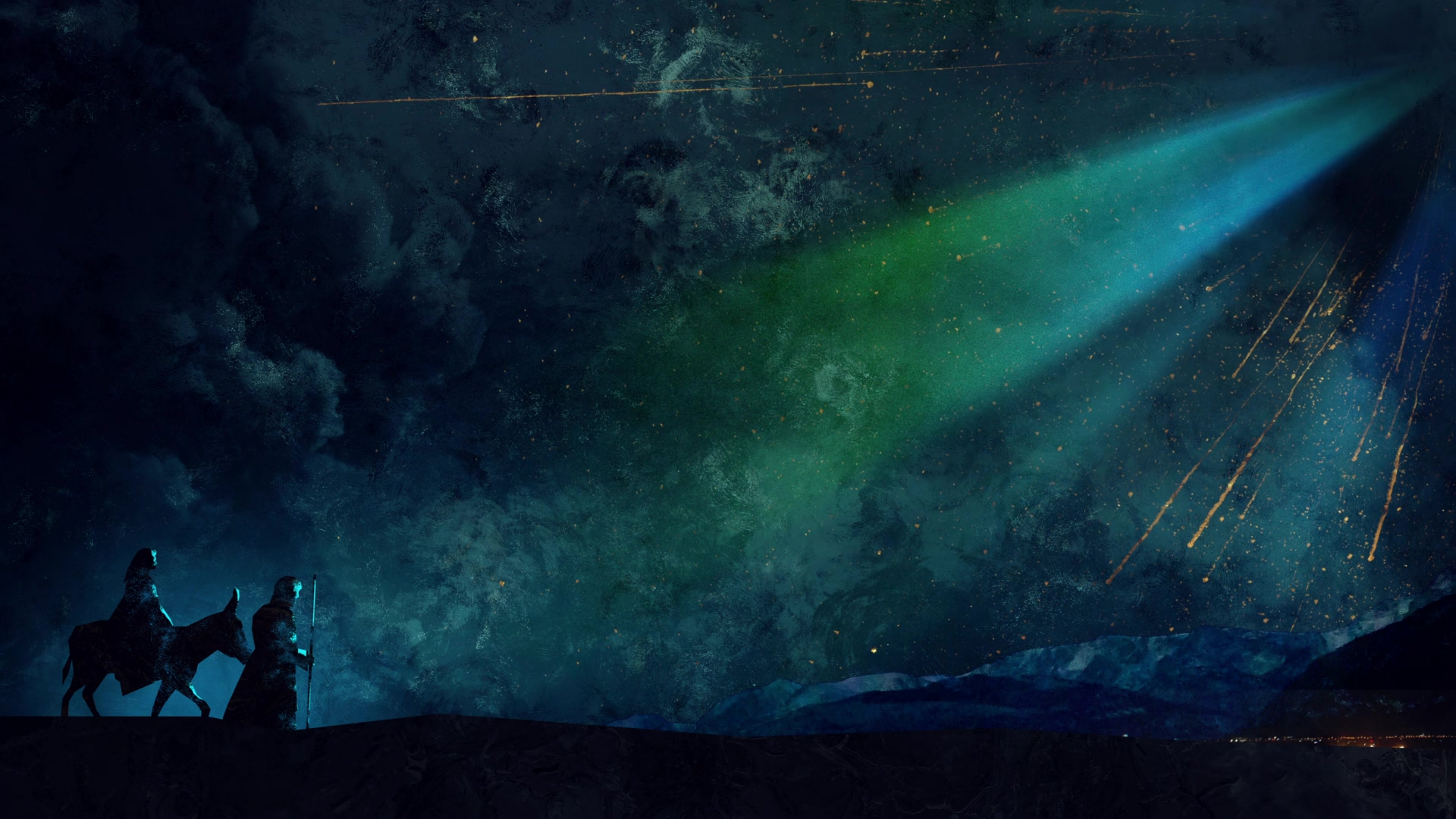
**For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have
come into the world—to bear witness to the truth.
Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.**

John 18:37



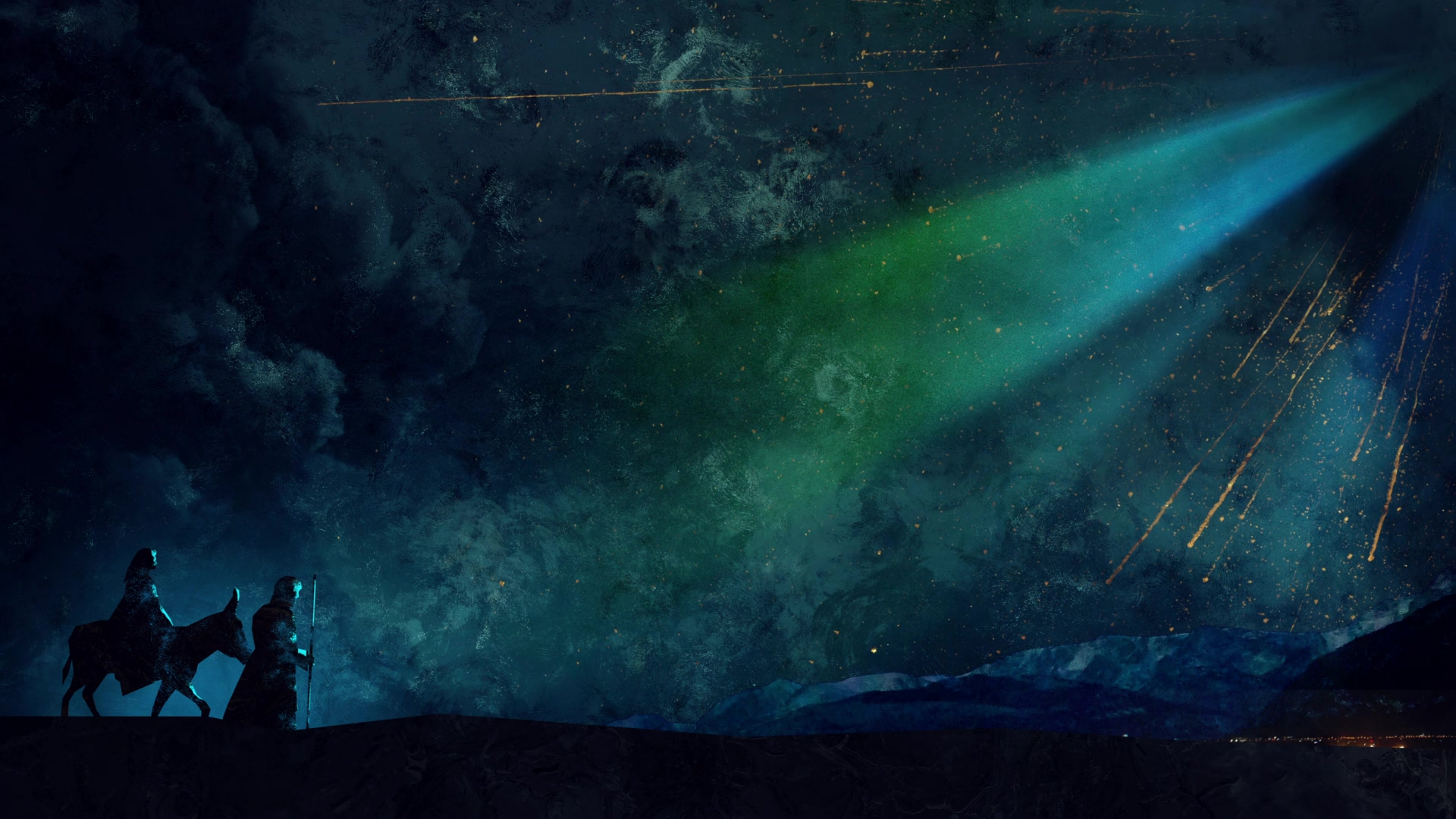
For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23





We Need God's Grace



17 If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:

2 Corinthians 5:17–19

**1⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ,
not counting people's sins against them. And he has
committed to us the message of reconciliation.**

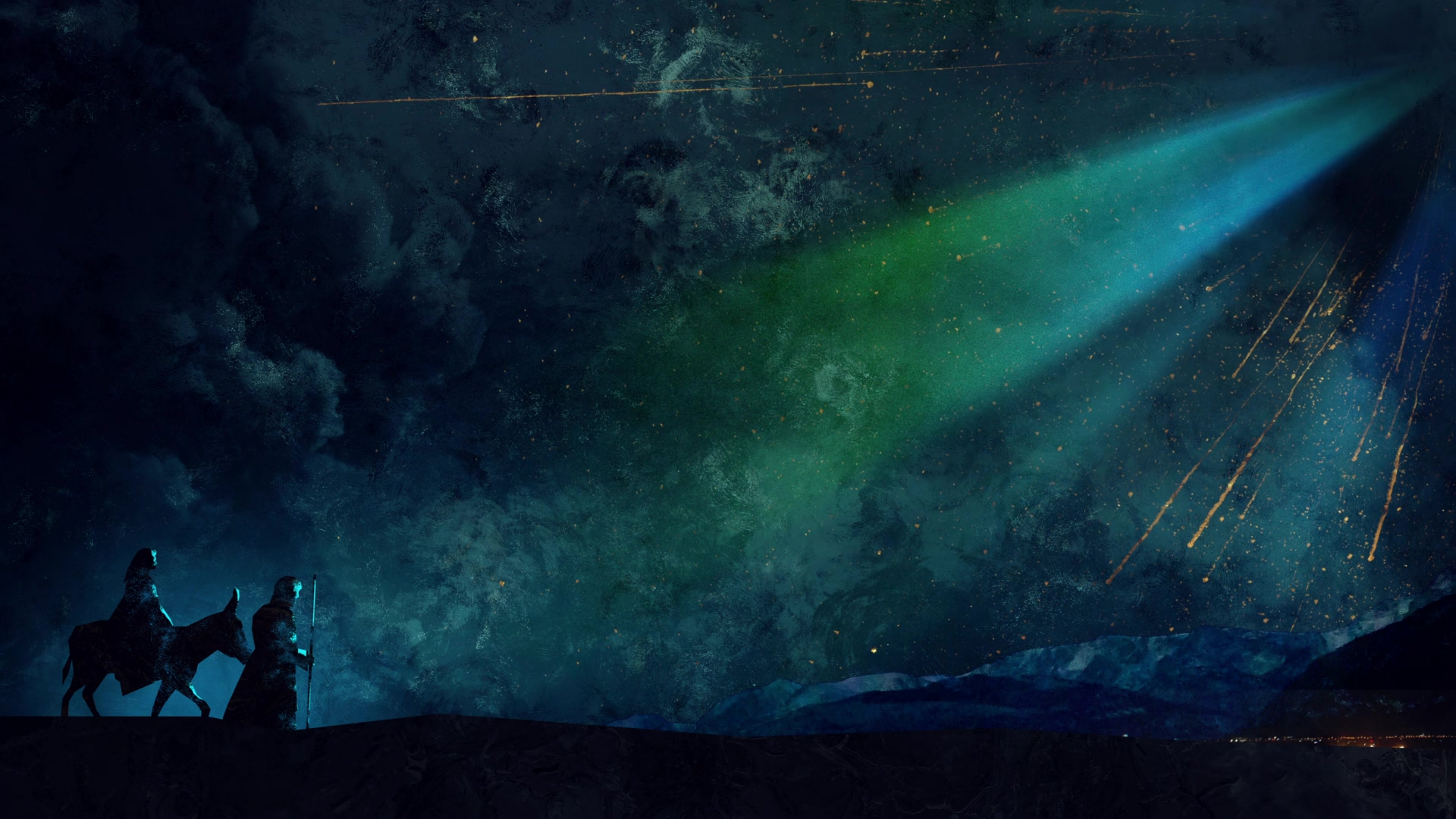
2 Corinthians 5:17–19



You were worth it to God

⁹ God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11



It is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.

Hebrews 11:6

Merry Christmas

