

True Life Stories



of Christmas

Joy And Grief

(Matthew 2:1-18 NASB)

True Life Stories of Christmas



¹Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying,
²“Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.”



³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. ⁴And gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.



⁵They said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for this is what has been written by the prophet:

⁶‘AND YOU, BETHLEHEM, LAND OF JUDAH, ARE BY NO MEANS LEAST AMONG

THE LEADERS OF JUDAH;

FOR FROM YOU WILL COME FORTH A RULER WHO WILL SHEPHERD MY PEOPLE ISRAEL.’”



⁷Then Herod secretly called for the magi and determined from them the exact time the star appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the Child; and when you have found Him, report to me, so that I too may come and worship Him.”



Joy And Grief

Exceedingly Great Joy

⁹After hearing the king, they went on their way; and behold, the star, which they had seen in the east, went on ahead of them until it came to a stop over the place where the Child was to be found. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.



Joy And Grief

Exceedingly Great Joy

¹¹And after they came into the house, they saw the Child with His mother Mary; and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented to Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.



Joy And Grief

Exceedingly Great Joy

¹²And after being warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod, the magi left for their own country by another way.

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¹³Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to kill Him.”



Joy And Grief

Flee To Egypt

¹⁴So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt. ¹⁵He stayed there until the death of Herod; this happened so that what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet would be fulfilled: “OUT OF EGYPT I CALLED MY SON.”



¹⁶Then when Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he became very enraged, and sent men and killed all the boys who were in Bethlehem and all its vicinity who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had determined from the magi.



Joy And Grief

Great Mourning

¹⁷Then what had been spoken through Jeremiah the prophet was fulfilled:

¹⁸“A VOICE WAS HEARD IN RAMAH,
WEEPING AND GREAT MOURNING,
RACHEL WEEPING FOR HER CHILDREN;
AND SHE REFUSED TO BE COMFORTED,
BECAUSE THEY WERE NO MORE.”



Communion

(1 Corinthians 11:23-26 NIV)



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