

ABOUT THE SAME TIME Jesus was born, another baby was born. His name was John, and God had a special job for him. John was going to get everyone ready for Jesus.

The day John was born, his dad knew God's promise to Abraham was coming true—God was sending the Rescuer. And he was so happy he sang a song:

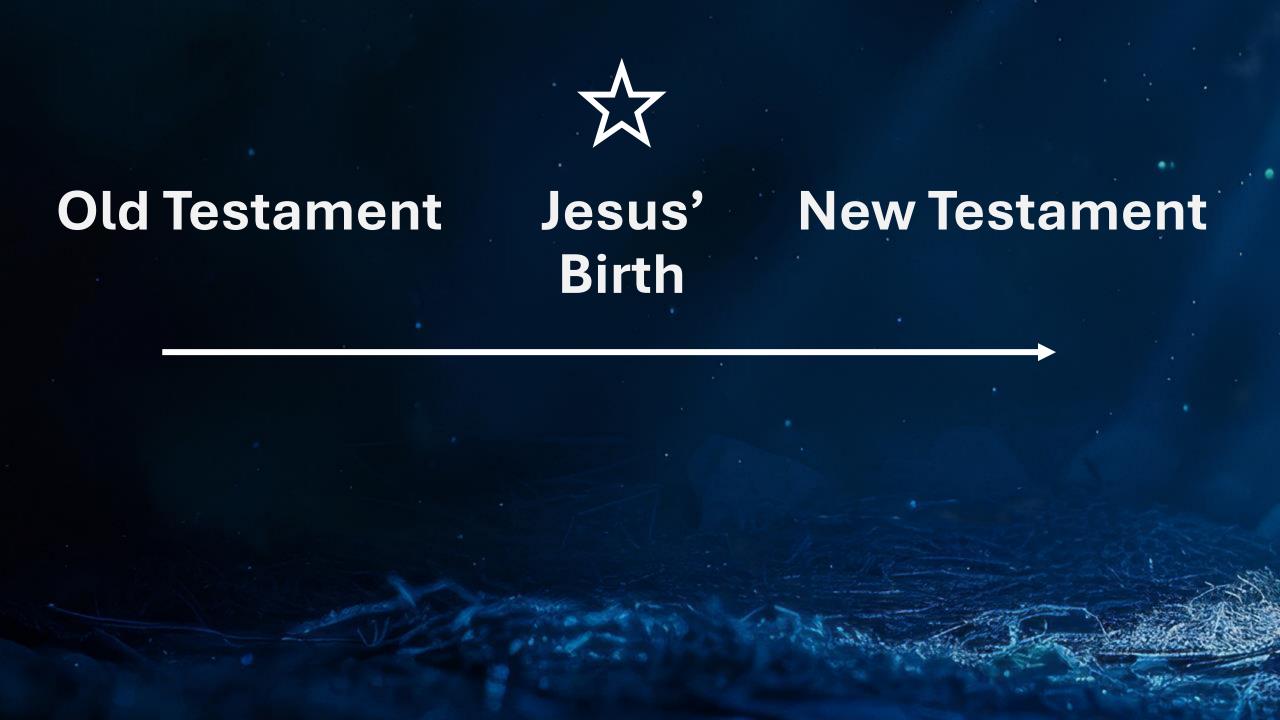
Because God loves us with a Never Stopping,
Never Giving Up, Unbreaking,
Always and Forever Love –
Heaven is breaking through!
He is sending us a Light from Heaven
To shine on us like the sun
To shine on those who live in darkness
And in the shadow of death
To guide our feet into the way of peace

The Jesus Story Book Bible (Sally Lloyd-Jones)



- 1. Salvation is here!
- 2. Jesus saves
- 3. A message to share





Zechariah: Luke 1:8-13, 18-20

⁸Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, ⁹ he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰ And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear. ¹³ But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.

Zechariah: Luke 1:8-13, 18-20

¹⁸ Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years."

¹⁹ The angel said to him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. ²⁰ And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time."

Salvation is here!



"Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them."



Salvation has come because God has visited us.



Jesus saves



"He has raised up a horn of salvation for us..."



"to give his people knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins"



The way we come to experience salvation is by having our sins forgiven.



When Jesus died on the cross, he died not for his own sin – he had none – but for mine and yours.



A message to share



"And you, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him,"



