

Faith that ushers in Christmas (Faith of Mary)

Luke 1:26-38, 46-55

⁴ But when the **right time came**, God sent his Son,
born of a woman, subject to the law.

⁵ God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children.

Galatians 4:4-5 (NLT)

4 Rome's conquests had produced "Roman peace," so that travel was both safe and easy. That **political unity** was built on the earlier victories of Alexander the Great, whose expansion from Greece to Egypt to India left in its wake the Greek language and culture, which later made the spread of the gospel easier. Greek-speaking Jews lived in every city of the Roman Empire.

Their religion was protected by Roman law, and that law protected Christianity for its first half century. Many Gentiles who were interested in the monotheism and morality of Judaism went to the Jewish synagogues. Thus, the synagogue was a natural starting point for the church's early outreach to Gentiles.

virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call
him Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

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

For us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government
shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful
counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace

Isaiah 9:6



“Oh, how my soul praises the Lord.

47 How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!

48 For he took notice of his lowly servant girl,
and from now on all generations will call me
blessed.

49 For the Mighty One is holy,
and he has done great things for me.

50 He shows mercy from generation to generation to all
who fear him.

51 His mighty arm has done tremendous things! He has scattered the proud and haughty ones.

52 He has brought down princes from their thrones and exalted the humble.

53 He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands.

54 He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful.

55 For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever.”