



Scriptures from New International Version unless noted

The World Did

The Christmas Story seems unbelievable, but it makes sense of the flow of human history.

**The Christmas Story didn't start with Mary and Joseph,
it started with another unbelievable promise 2000 years before Jesus was born.**

The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land that I will show you."

Genesis 12:1

"I will make you into a great nation..."

Genesis 12:2

"And I will bless you; I will make your name great..."

Genesis 12:2

"...and you will be a blessing."

Genesis 12:2

"I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse..."

Genesis 12:3

"...and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 12:3

The Kingdom of Israel

"But if you turn away and forsake the decrees and commands I have given you and go off to serve other gods and worship them, then I will uproot Israel from my land... and... reject this temple I have consecrated for my Name. I will make it... an object of ridicule among all peoples."

2 Chronicles 7:19-20

The Kingdom of Israel Divided

"I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth."

Isaiah 49:6

"My Name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations," says the Lord Almighty.

Malachi 1:11

Israel was overrun by the Babylonians, Persians, Greeks and Romans.

The descendants of Abraham did become a nation - but this unbelievable, impossible promise would end there.

When the set time had fully come...

Galatians 4:4

...God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Luke 1:26-28

"...you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord will give him the throne of his father David, and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

Luke 1:30-33

In the end, God kept his unbelievable, seemingly impossible promise to Abraham.

**Who Needs Christmas?
The World did!**