

CHRISTMAS



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Advent

Week 1: Hope

Week 2: Love

Week 3: Joy

Isaiah 49:13 (NLT)

**Sing for joy, O heavens! Rejoice, O earth!
Burst into song, O mountains! For
the Lord has comforted His people and
will have compassion on them in their
suffering.**

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Luke 2: 1-20 (NIV)

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register.

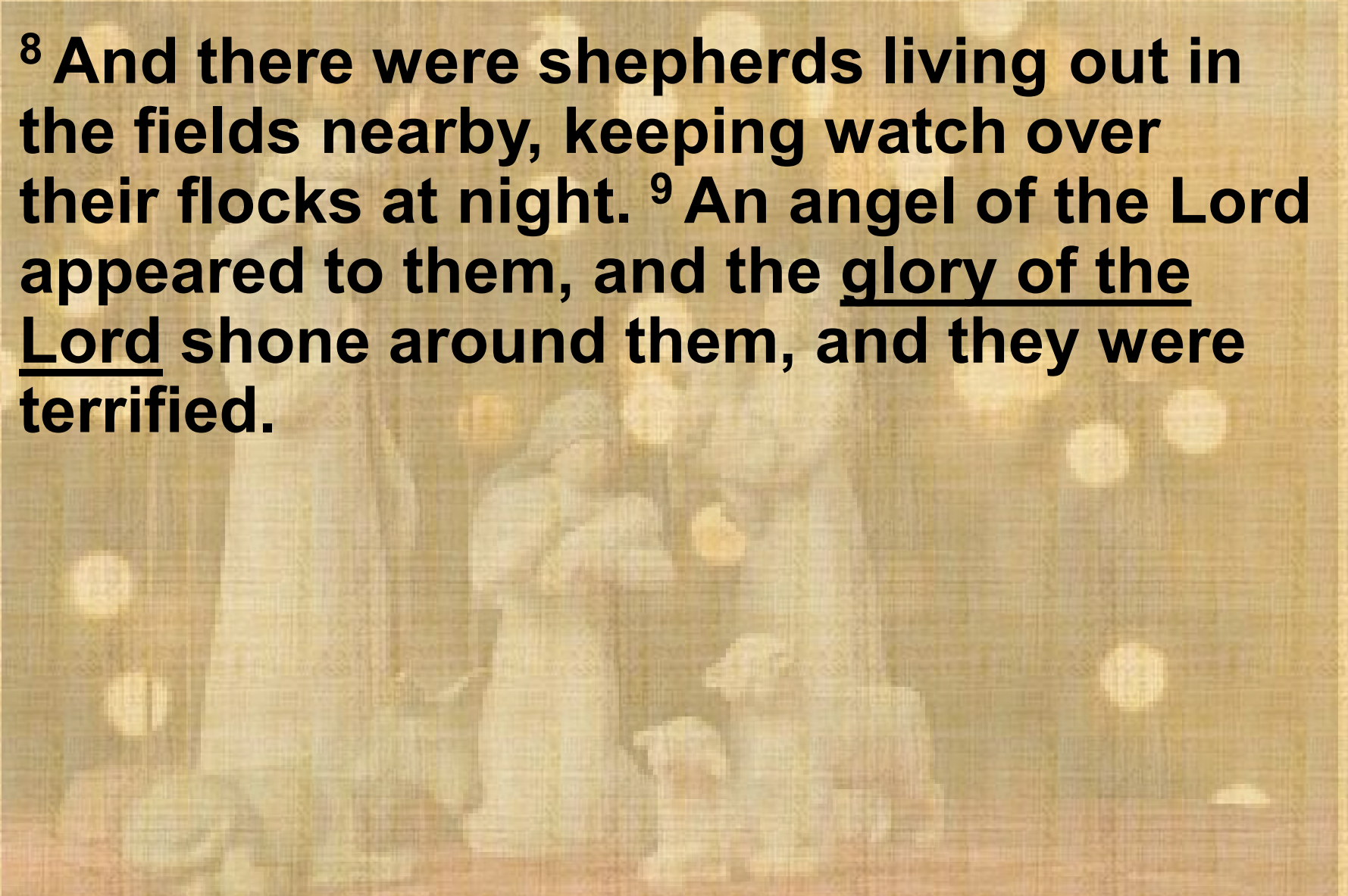
⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

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⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

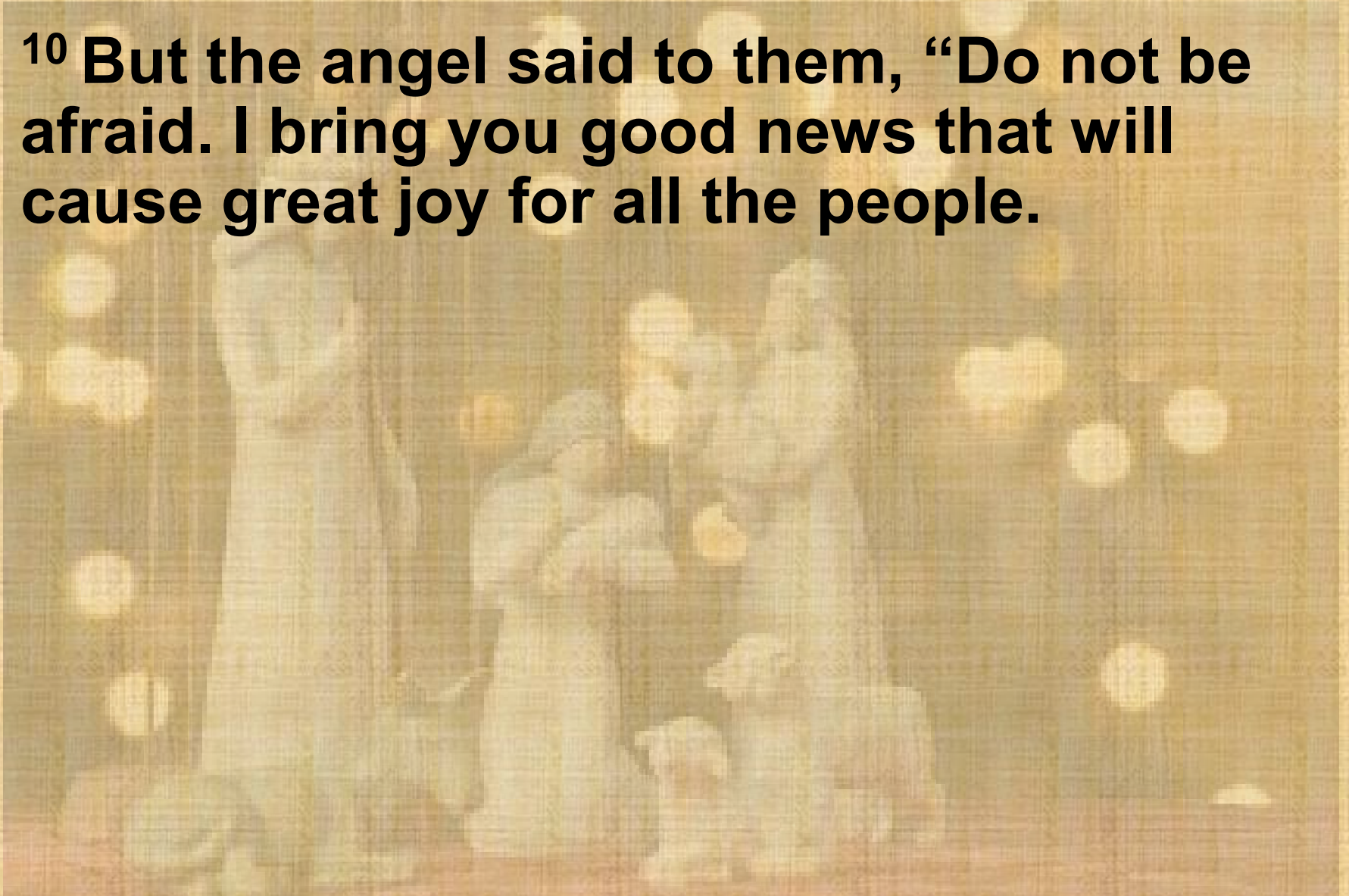
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⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.



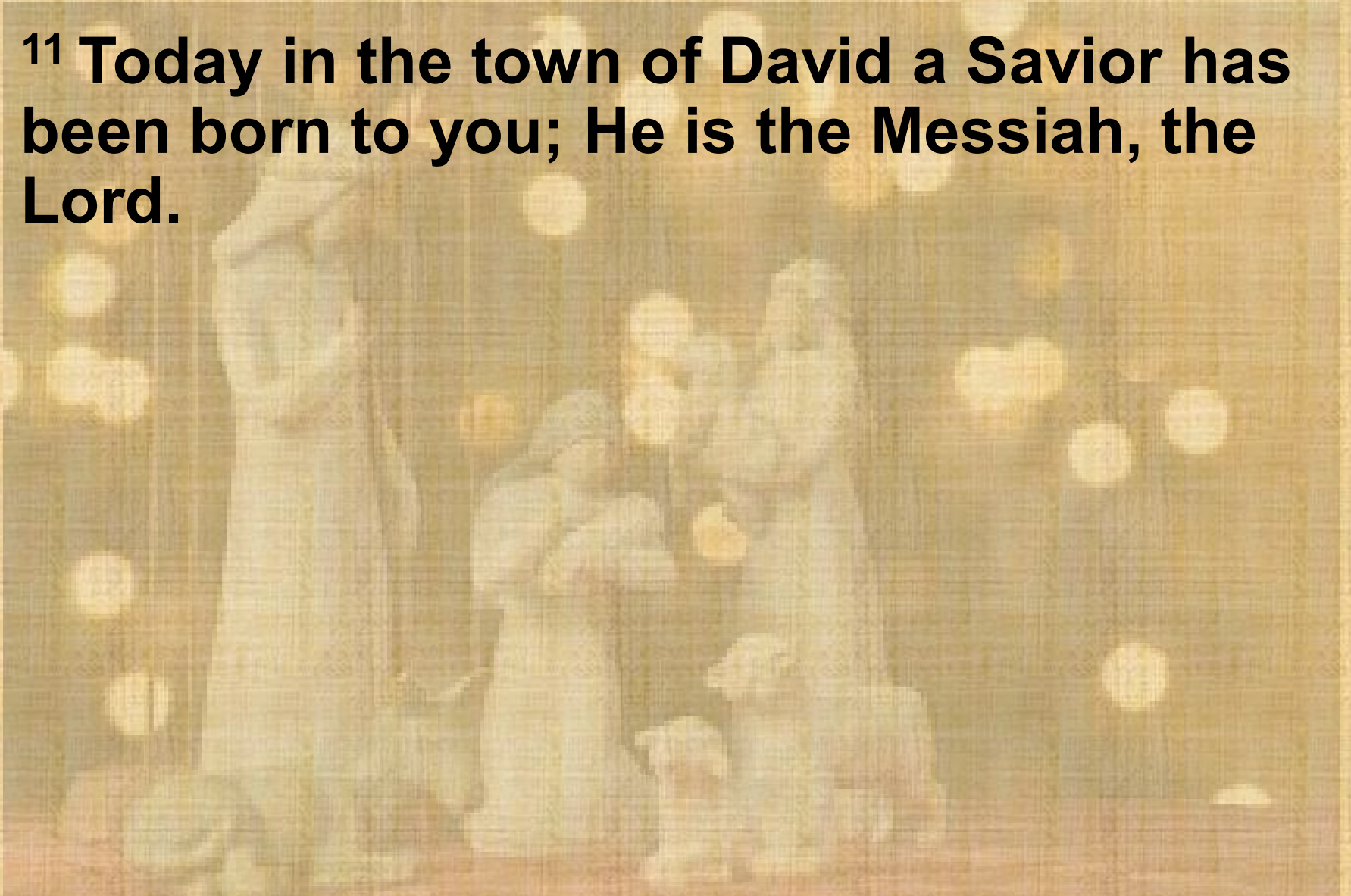
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¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.



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¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord.



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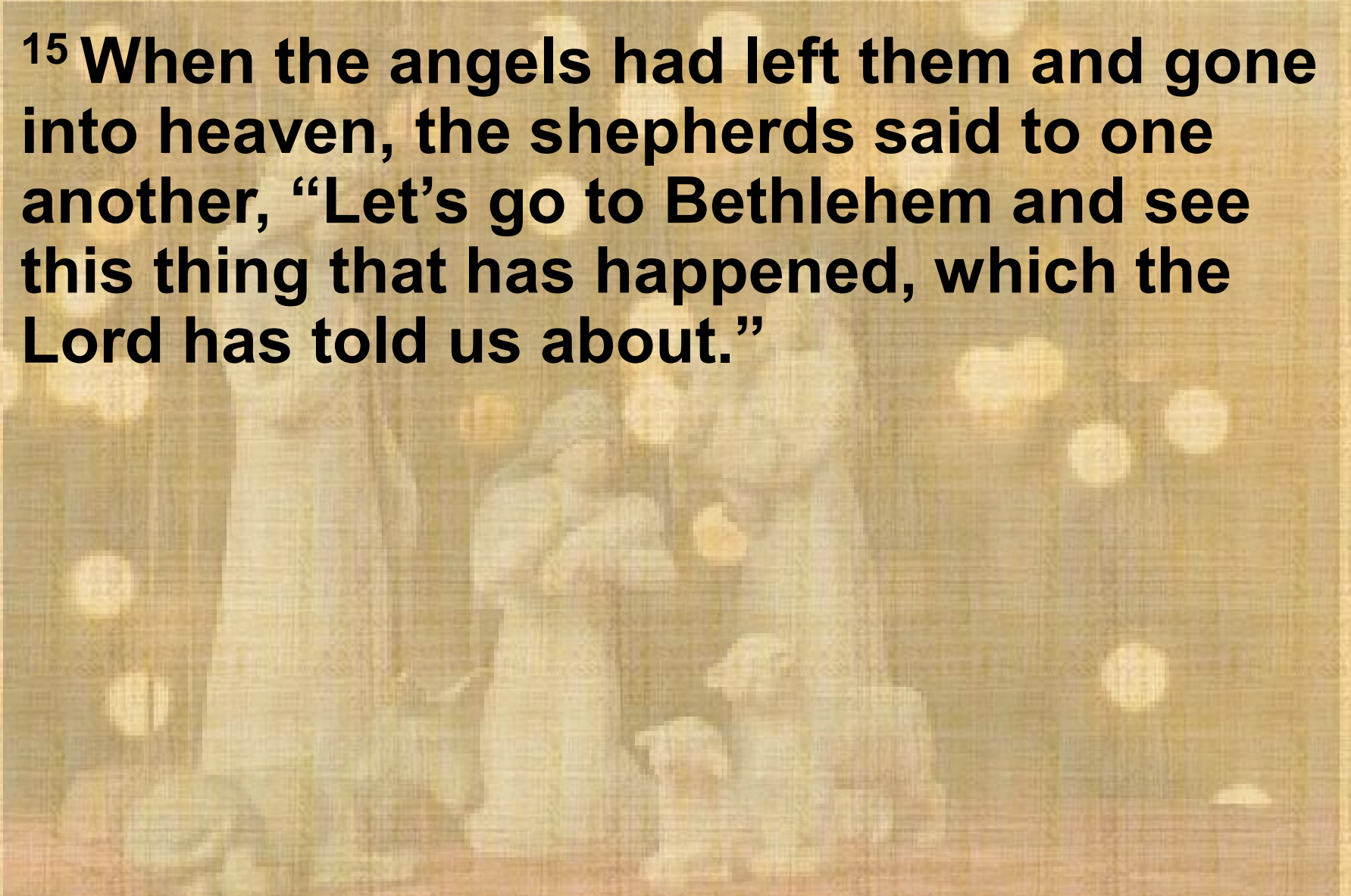
¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

**¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace to those on whom
His favor rests.”**

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¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”



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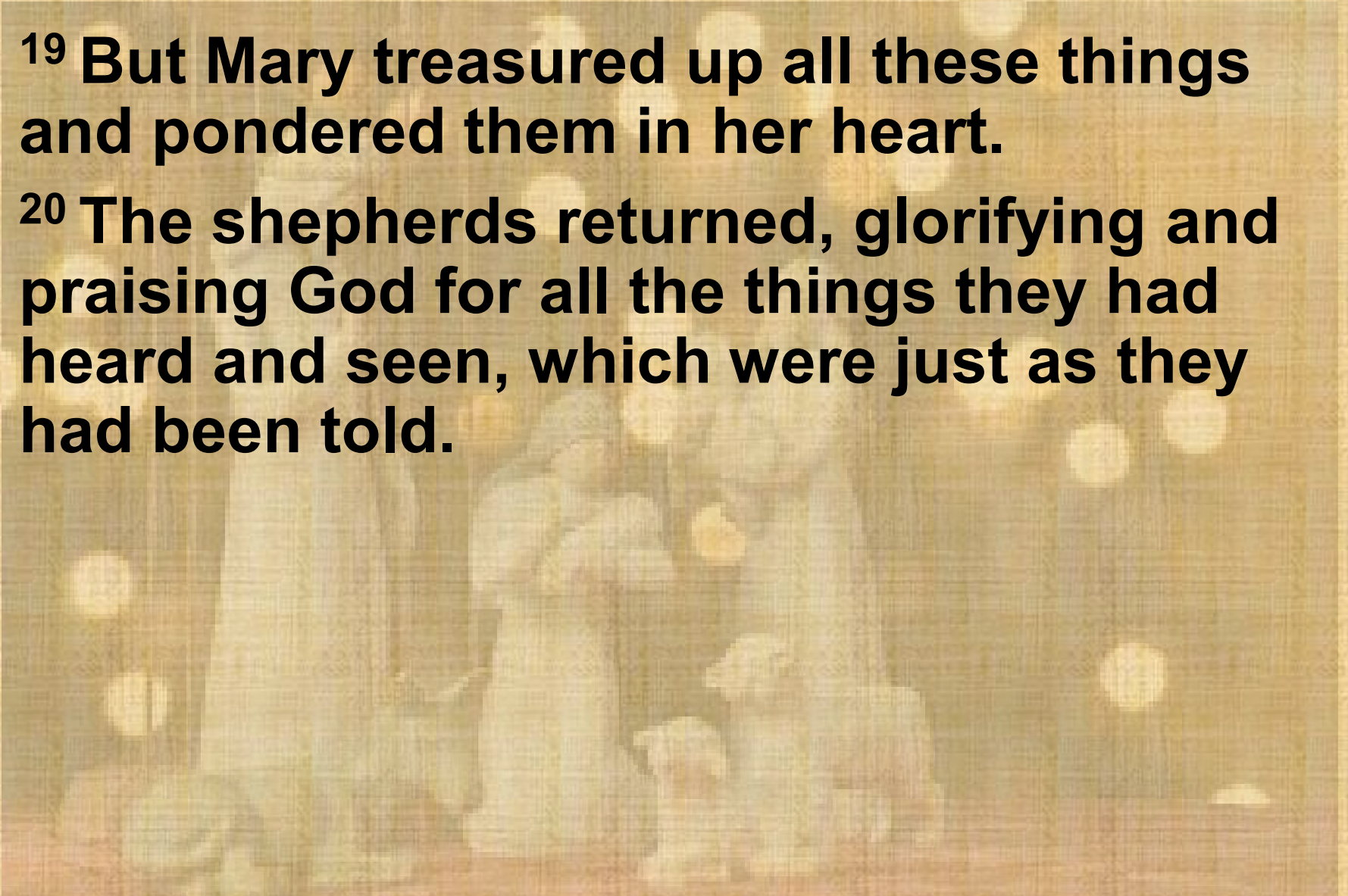
¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

¹⁷ When they had seen Him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

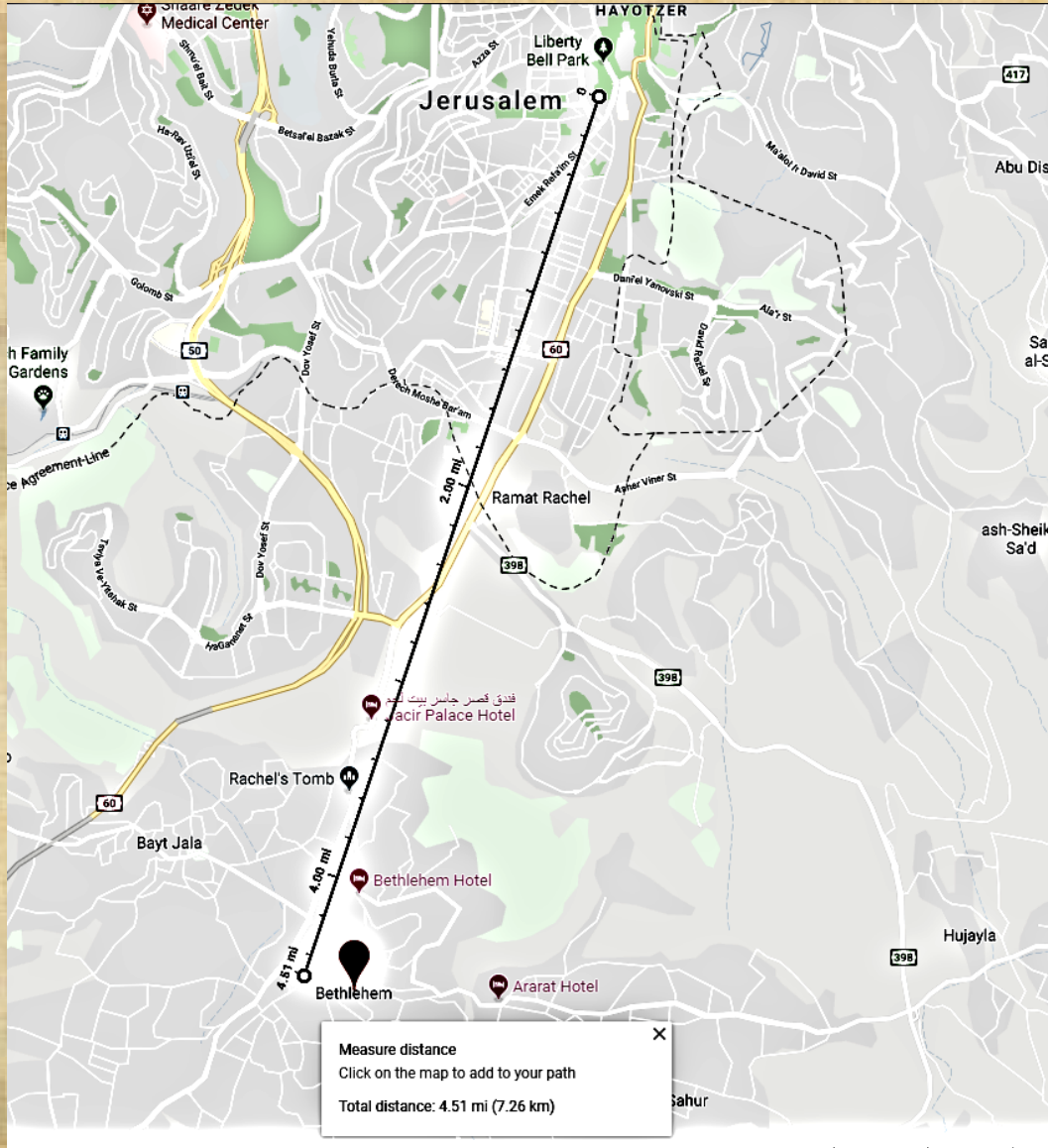
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19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

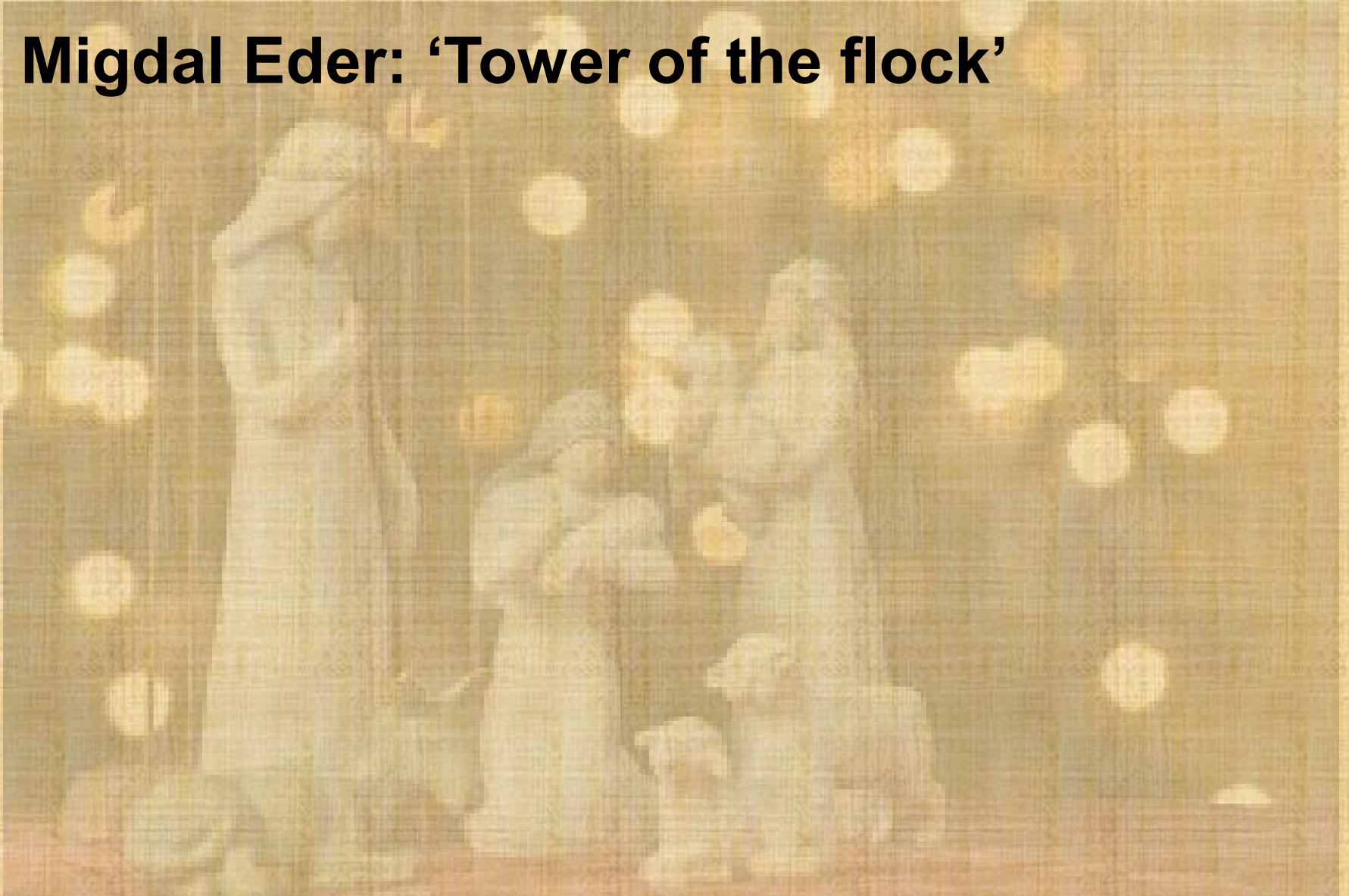


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Migdal Eder: 'Tower of the flock'



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Genesis 35:19-21 (NIV)

19 So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).

20 Over her tomb Jacob set up a pillar, and to this day that pillar marks Rachel's tomb.

21 Israel moved on again and pitched his tent beyond Migdal Eder.

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Micah 4:8 (NKJV)

“And you, O tower of the flock, the stronghold of the daughter of Zion, to you shall it come, even the former dominion shall come, the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.”

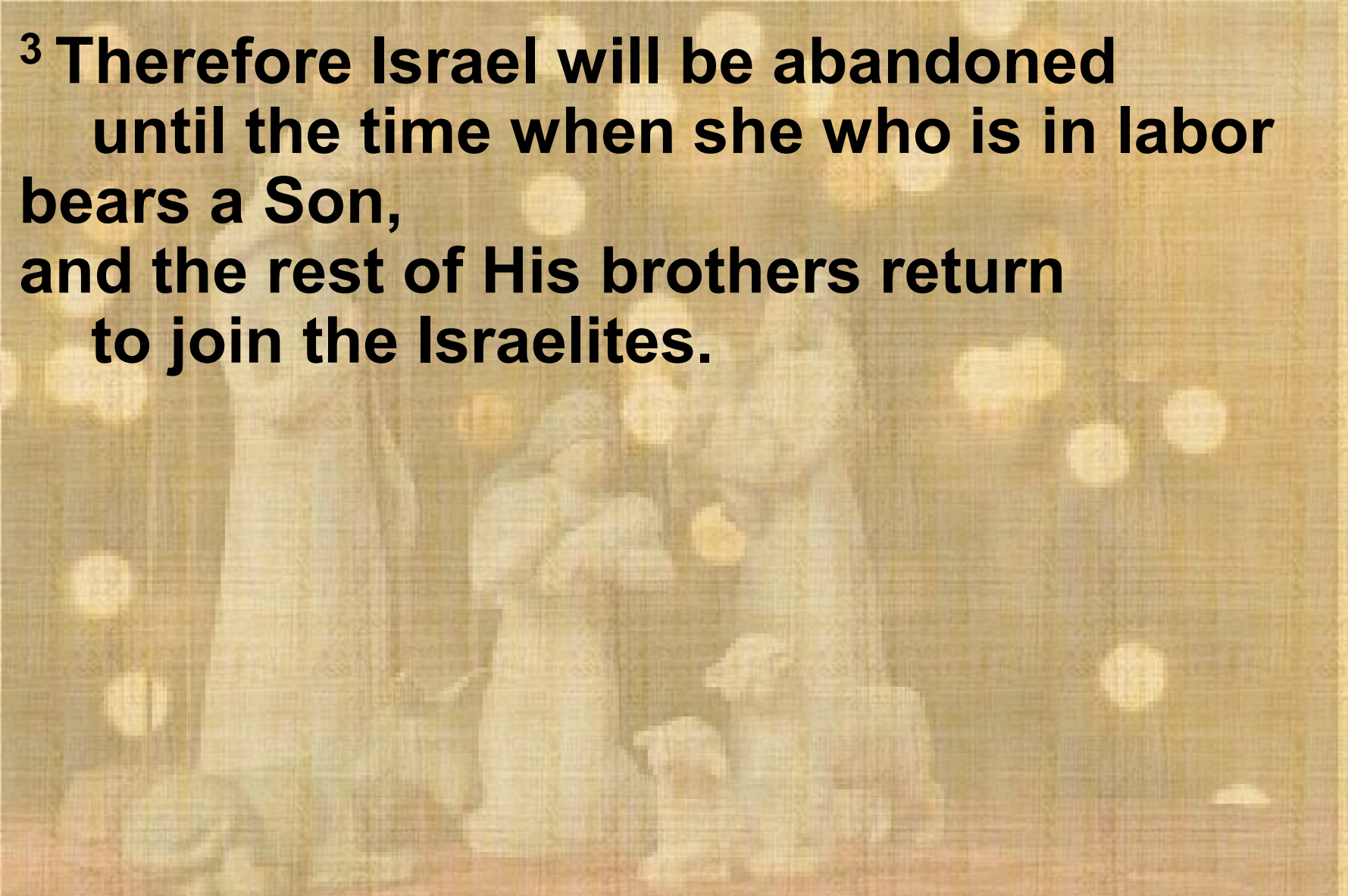
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Micah 5:2-5 (NIV)

**“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.”**

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**³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned
until the time when she who is in labor
bears a Son,
and the rest of His brothers return
to join the Israelites.**



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**4 He will stand and shepherd His flock
in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of
the Lord his God.**

**And they will live securely, for then His
greatness
will reach to the ends of the earth.**

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Revelation 7:17 (NIV)

**17 For the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be their Shepherd;**

**‘He will lead them to springs of living
water.’**

**‘And God will wipe away every tear
from their eyes.’”**

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Jesus is your Lamb
Is He your Shepherd?

