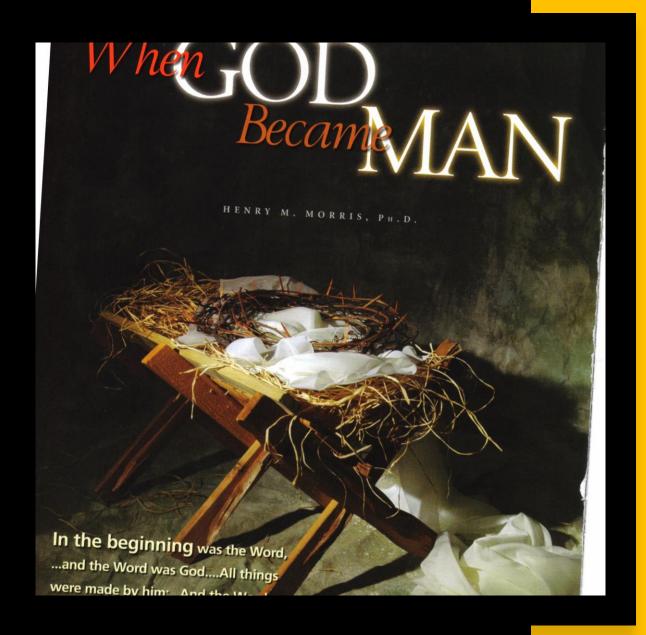
"Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem."

- "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...
- And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:1,14)



Mary and Joseph

- Mary "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her." (Luke 1:38)
- "And Joseph arose from his sleep, and did as the angel of the Lord commanded him, and took her as his wife, 25 and kept her a virgin until she gave birth to a Son; and he called His name Jesus." (Matthew 1:24 25)

- Mary and Joseph
 - "how can this be...?" (Luke1:34)
 - Humanly costly to accept
 - Yet they did not hesitate to believe and act





- Simeon and Anna (Luke 2:25 38)
 - Came to the temple to offer a sacrifice
 - Leviticus 12:1 8
 - Simeon, a righteous man
 - Anna, a praying widow

- The Wise Men (Matthew 2:1 12)
 - Journey to find this "king of the Jews" (Mt. 2:2)
 - When pointed to Bethlehem by the Scriptures and the star they acted immediately (Micah 5:2)
 - Wise men today still search to know this King.

King Herod (Matthew 2:7-8, 16) There was no "love of the truth" in Herod

(2 Thess. 2:10)

- King Herod (Matthew 2:7-8, 16)
- (John 3:19 21). "This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. 20 Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21 But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

Non - Attendants

- The Pharisees
 - These men were the conservative religious leaders.
 - Yet they chose affluence and influence over obedience and reverence.
 - Jesus patiently offered abundant proof to them that he was the Messiah, but they rejected Him and sought His death.

What will you do with Jesus?

The positive and negative reactions to the truth about Jesus at the time of his birth and his resurrection are precisely the responses seen today.

Only belief and obedient response to truth can lead to salvation in Christ.