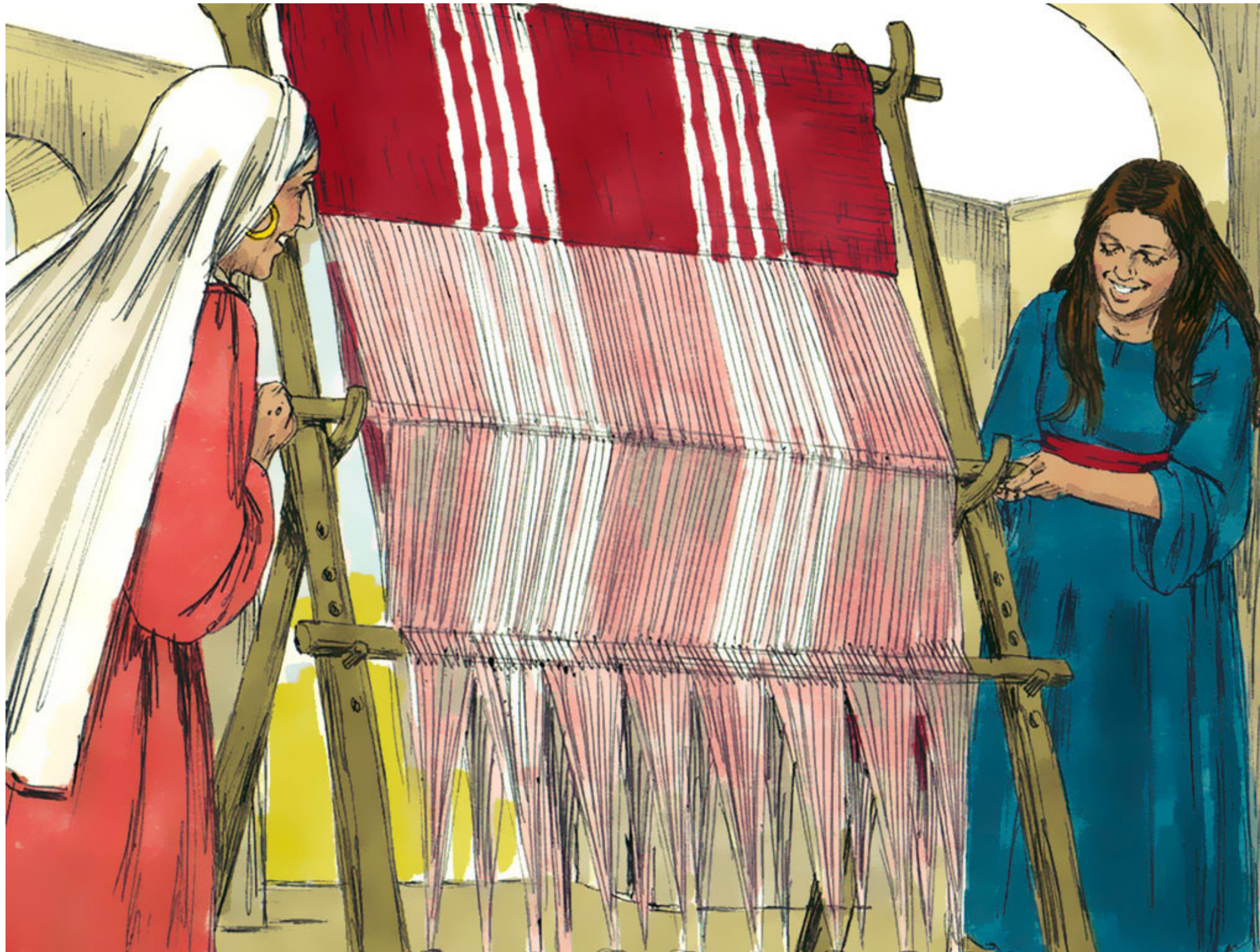


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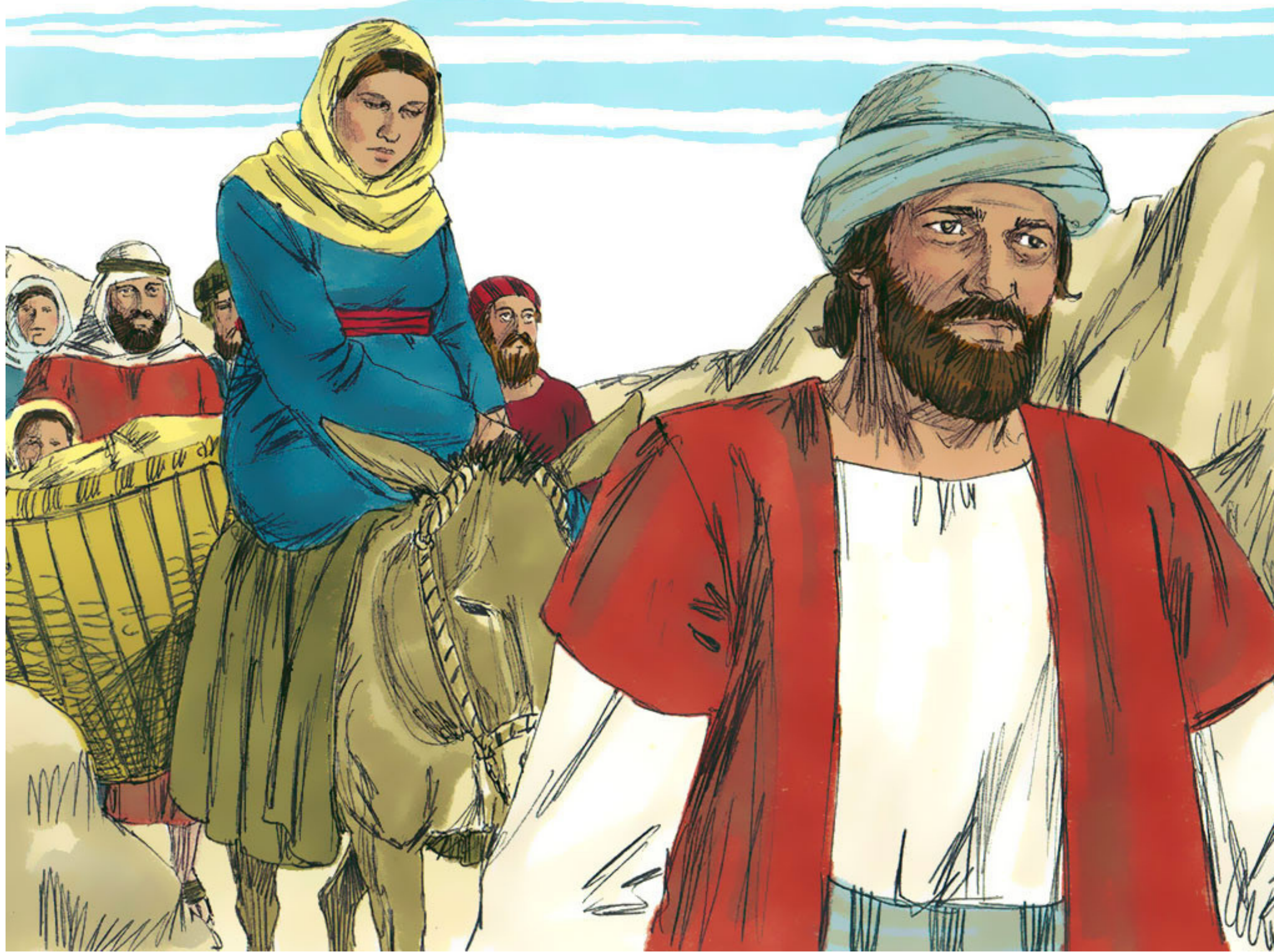




Mary stayed with Elizabeth for about three months and then returned home to Nazareth.



Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. Everyone was ordered to return to their family home town to register.



For Mary and Joseph this meant a long trip south to the town of Bethlehem as they were both descendants of King David. Mary's baby was due to be born.



When they arrived there was no room for them in the inn so they spent the night where the animals sheltered.



That night Mary gave birth to her first born son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger.



Jesus, the Savior of the World had arrived just as God had promised.



There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. Suddenly an angel appeared.



The glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

The angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for everyone. Today in the town of David, a Saviour has been born to you. He is Christ, the Lord. You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'



Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favour rests.'



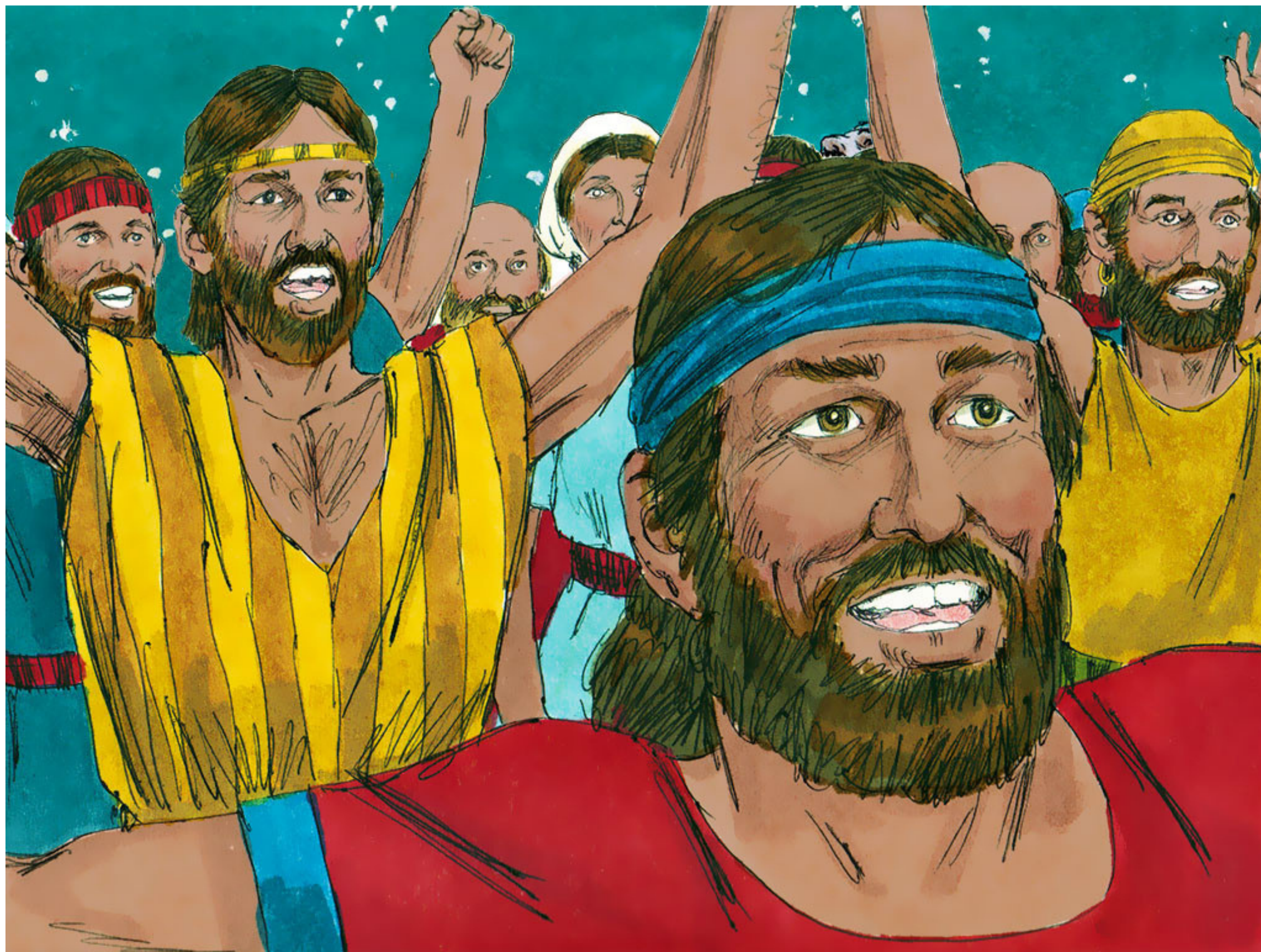
When this great army of angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, 'Come on! Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this wonderful thing the Lord has told us about.'



They ran to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger.



The shepherds told everyone what the angel had said to them about this child. All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished. Mary quietly treasured these things in her heart and often thought about them.



Then the shepherds went back again to their fields praising God for the visit of the angels, and because they had seen the child, the angel had told them about.

**Let's Talk About
The Story...**



Why did Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem?



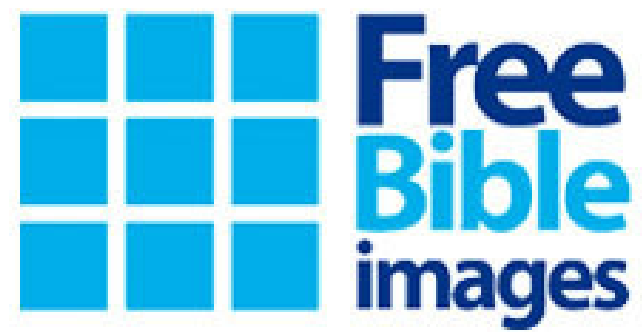
**Why was it important
that Jesus was born in
Bethlehem?**



**What did the angel tell
the shepherds?**



**What did Mary
treasure in her heart?**



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