

## THE BIRTH OF JESUS FORETOLD

**Luke 1:26-38**

Friday, December 22, 2017

Luke 1:38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her.

As I contemplate this scripture of the upcoming birth of our Savior, it takes me back to when I was a little girl, maybe six years old or so. I was attending Sunday School in a small community church in Nicholas County, and I so loved my Sunday School teacher. Her name was Leoane. And another thing I loved was the beautiful mural she put up every year at Christmastime. I remember her telling us that it was getting too old to keep, and that she was going to discard it. I was so upset that she could throw something so beautiful away, that I asked for it.

The mural had three or four panels depicting the scenery of Bethlehem, almost covering the whole wall. At the far right high upon a barren, rocky hill, I remember were the three well adorned Wise Men and their huge camels, against the bluest skies. Then descending the hill, all I can remember about it was the grass was growing a bright green color. Then far to the left, a huge village of small homes and barns. Atop one home, a bright silvery light sparkled in the sky. .

I'm not sure what happened to the mural, but I do remember Mom helping me put it up many Christmases after that year; using tape, thumbtacks, whatever we could, to secure it. It was, then, that the season of Christmas was starting in our home.

It's my prayer this year that we all can reflect on small ways that Christ comes to us every Christmas.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for the many years that I was able as a child to learn about You and your love for me. Thank You for loving us all so much that you died for us. Thank You, also, for your mother, Mary, who gracefully accepted her responsibility to love and nurture You. Help us in this Christmastime, to love and care for others. Amen.

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