

The Birth of *Christ*

New
Testament
Vistas



OT makes some amazing promises

Adam and
Eve

Genesis 3:15 NIV And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."



OT makes some amazing promises

Adam and
Eve

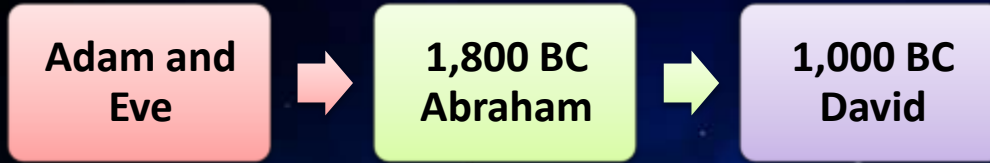


1,800 BC
Abraham

Genesis 12:3 NIV I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."



OT makes some amazing promises



2 Samuel 7:12-14 NIV When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. ...



OT makes some amazing promises



Micah 5:2 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."



OT makes some amazing promises



Isaiah 7:14 NIV Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

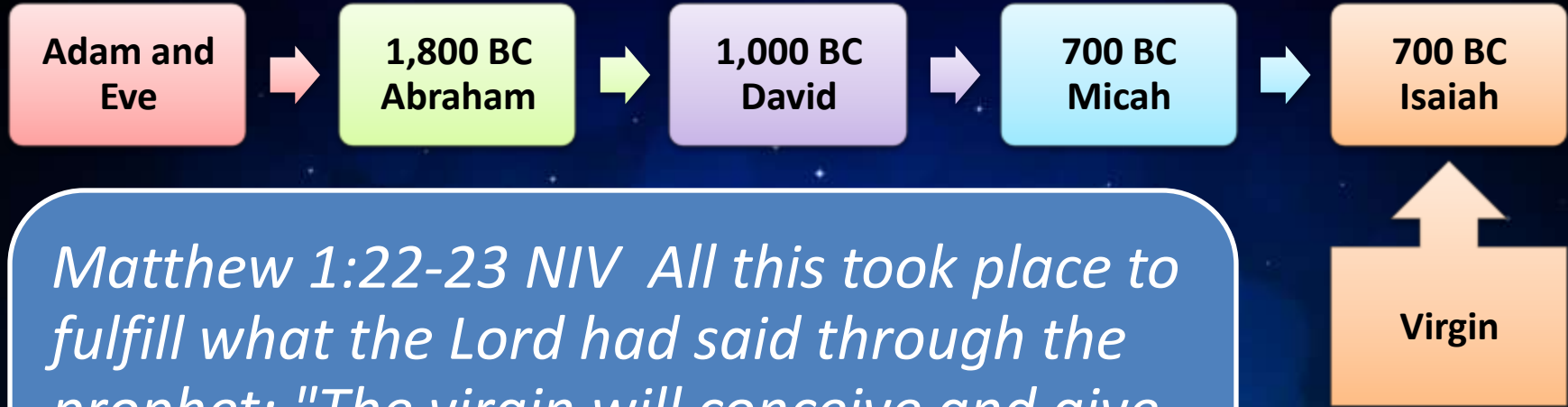


700 Years Later, God Keeps His Promises

Luke 1:26-28 NIV 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."



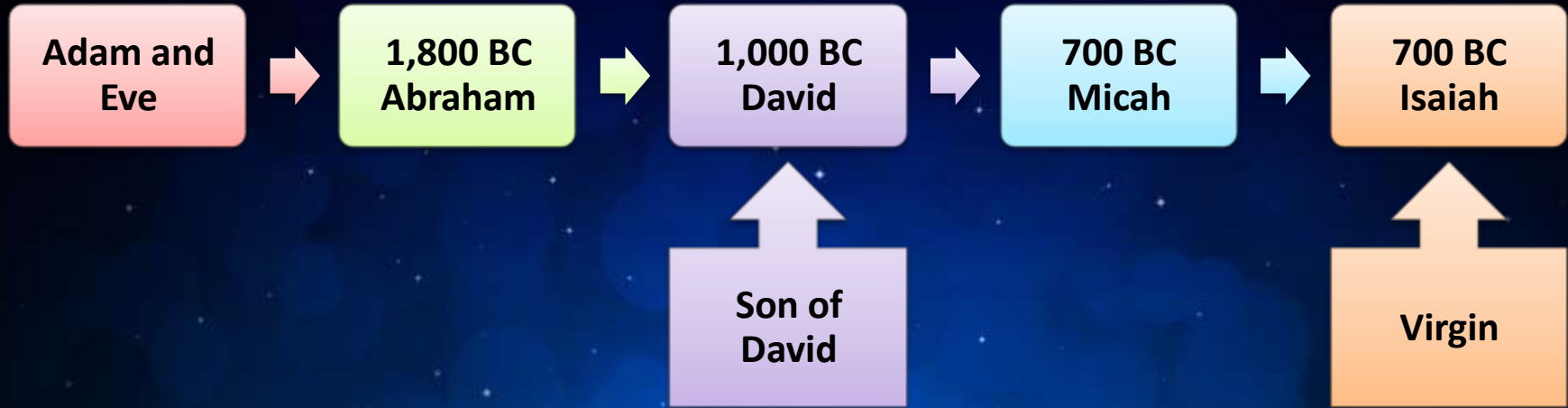
Note Promises God is Keeping



Matthew 1:22-23 NIV All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").



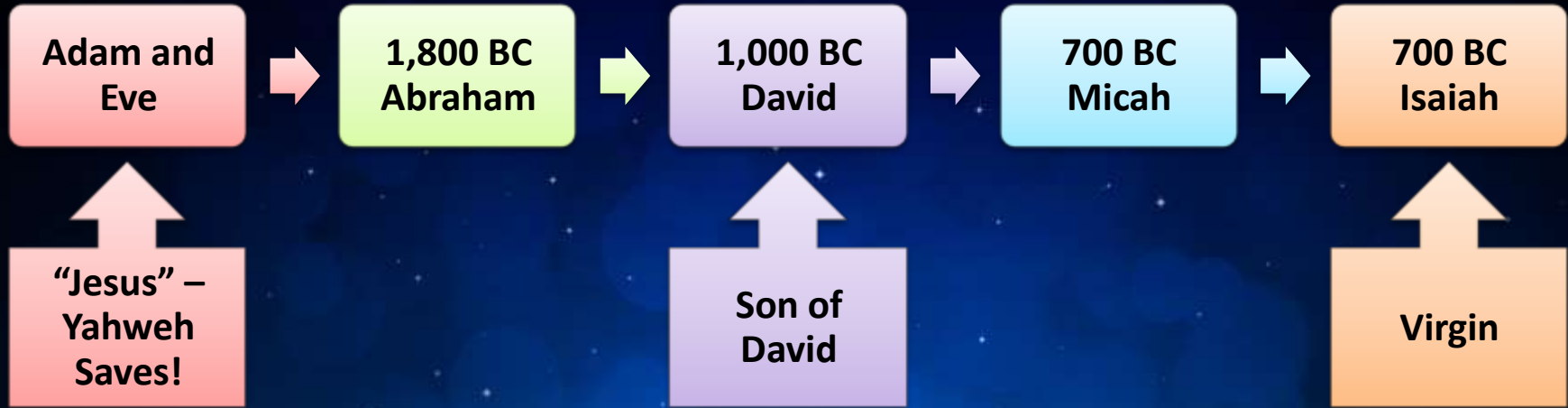
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Luke 1:32-33 NIV He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."



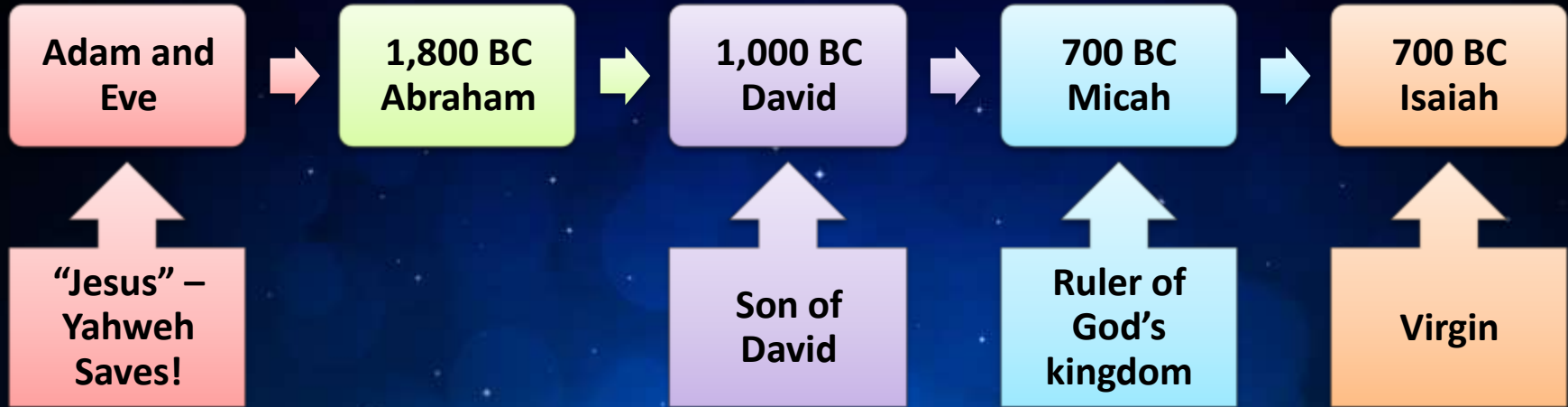
Note Promises God is Keeping



Matthew 1:21 NIV ...you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."



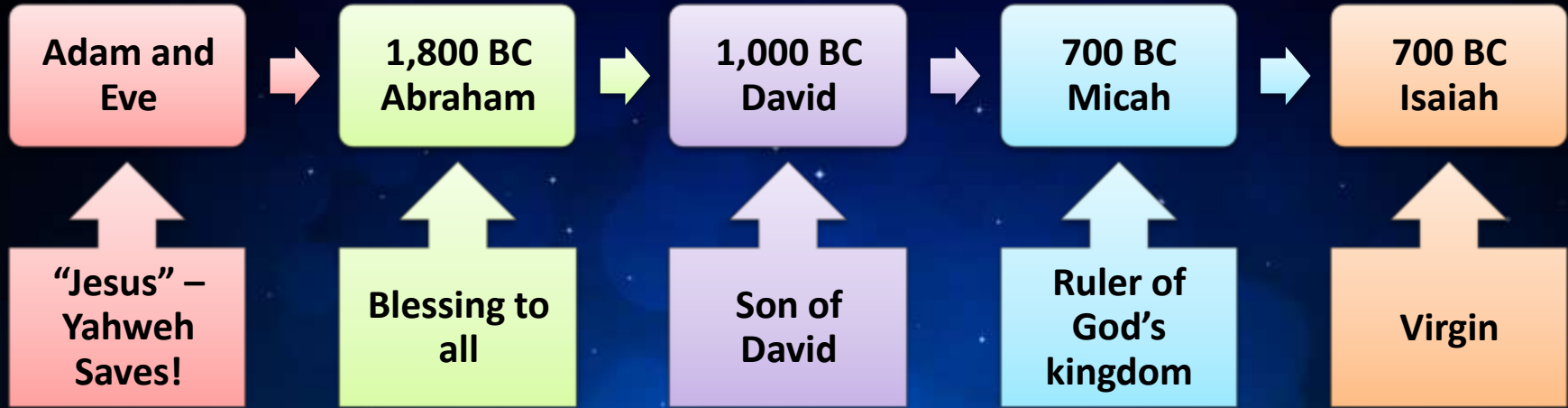
Note Promises God is Keeping



Matthew 2:3-5 NIV When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:



Note Promises God is Keeping



Galatians 3:8 NIV Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you."



Mary becomes pregnant, as God promised

Luke 1:46-55 NIV And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me-- holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."



Distinction in Luke 1:50

Blessing to
all

- *Acts 3:25 NIV And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.'*



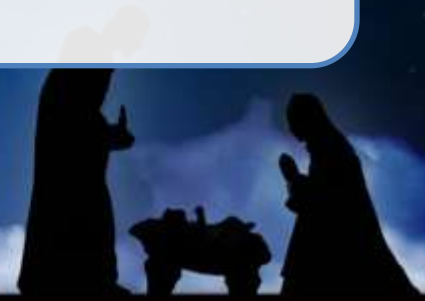
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- *Acts 3:25 NIV And you are heirs of the prophets and of the covenant God made with your fathers. He said to Abraham, 'Through your offspring all peoples on earth will be blessed.'*

Mercy only
to some

- *Luke 1:50 NIV His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.*



Jesus is Born

Luke 2:1-7 NIV In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. 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. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 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.



The Birth Announcement

Luke 2:8-14 NIV And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: 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 favor rests."



Distinction in Luke 2:14

Blessing to all

- *Acts 3:25 NLT You are the children of those prophets, and you are included in the covenant God promised to your ancestors. For God said to Abraham, 'Through your descendants all the families on earth will be blessed.'*



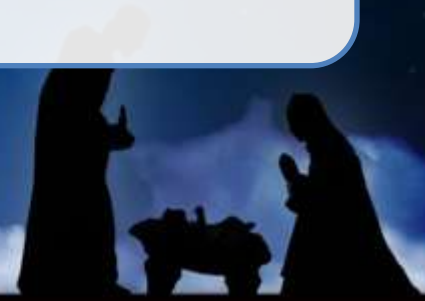
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Blessing to all

- *Acts 3:25 NLT You are the children of those prophets, and you are included in the covenant God promised to your ancestors. For God said to Abraham, 'Through your descendants all the families on earth will be blessed.'*

Peace to those
who please him

- *Luke 2:14 NLT "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."*



God does not treat all people the same



God is fair to all



God does not treat all people the same



God is fair to all



Only some receive
his mercy and peace



Who then is this baby Jesus?



Jesus is fully
God

John 1:1 NIV In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 10:30 NIV I and the Father are one."



Who then is this baby Jesus?



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God



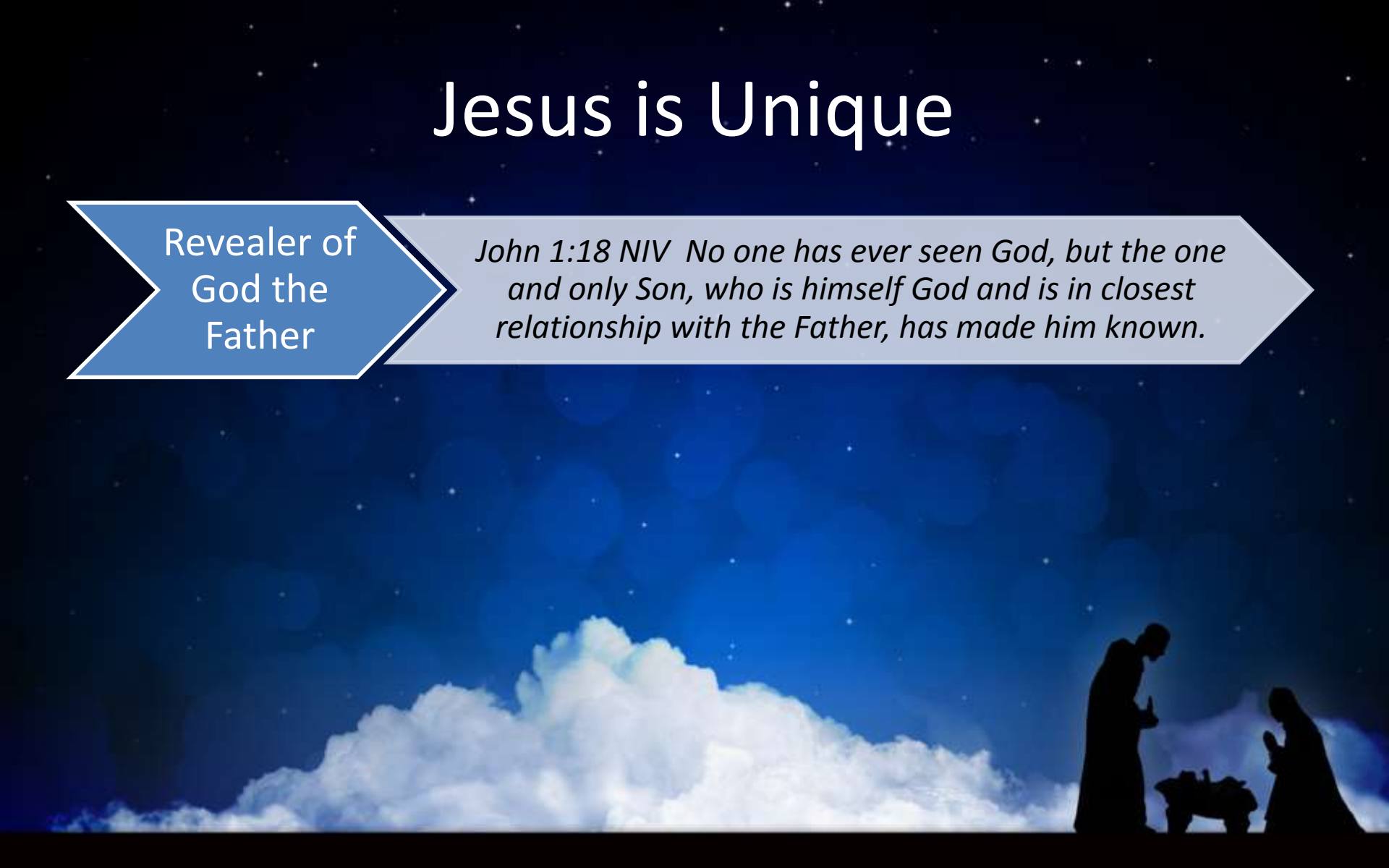
Jesus is Fully
Human



Jesus is Unique

Revealer of
God the
Father

John 1:18 NIV No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.



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God the
Father

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Mediator
between
God & Man

1 Timothy 2:5 NIV For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus,



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Savior

Hebrews 7:25 NIV Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

Jesus: God's blessing to all; Will you accept

His mercy?

- *Luke 1:50 NIV His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.*



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His peace?

- *Luke 2:14 NLT "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased."*

