THE SON OF GOD  
Luke 1:26-35

An angel of God appeared to Mary while she was still a virgin. The angel told Mary that she would be with child of the Holy Spirit.

The angel declared that this child would be the Son of God.

“He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High” (Luke 1:32).

Mary questioned the angel as to how she could be with child when she was still a virgin.

The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will overshadow you, and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God.” (Luke 1:31-32 and 35).

This teaches us that Jesus was God's unique Son. He grew in the womb and was born in the same natural way as all human children. However he was conceived in a different manner to any other human child, making him unique.

When we confess that he is the Son of God, we are acknowledging our belief in the Bethlehem story that Jesus was born of a virgin, the Word become flesh (Jhn 1:1,14).

CHRIST THE LORD  
Luke 2:8-20

As we leave the story in Luke 1, we notice something else that the angel declared about the holy child.

“The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. His kingdom will have no end (Luke 1:32-33).

On the night of Jesus's birth, an angel appeared to some shepherds camped in the fields watching their flocks. The angel spoke to them.

“I bring you good news of great joy for all people. Today in the city of David there has been born for you a Saviour who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

This Christ or Messiah had been promised by the prophets for centuries. Now at last the Messiah had come.

Long ago God had promised David that one of his descendants would sit on his throne and reign over God's people (Acts 2:30).

When we confess that Jesus is the Christ, we acknowledge that the child born in Bethlehem is King of kings and Lord of lords. He is now reigning over the kingdom of heaven (1Tim 6:14-16).

OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST  
Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:6-10

When the story of Christ's birth is told, it is sometimes treated as a story complete in itself. It is thought to be the “Christmas story” and is separated from “the Easter story”.

Wise people, however, understand that the Bethlehem story is about a baby born to die.

Yes, he was born the Son of God. Yes, he was born Christ the Lord. But he was also born to become our Saviour and Great High Priest.

“He learned obedience from the things which he suffered. And having been made perfect he became to all those who obey him the source of eternal salvation, being designated by God as a priest according to the order of Melchizedek” (Heb 5:8-10).

Jesus came “to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself” (Heb 9:26).

It is this fact that makes the Bethlehem story so much more meaningful. When we confess that Jesus Christ came in the flesh, we acknowledge that the flesh and blood of that little baby was purposed to be sacrificed as our only means of salvation (1John 2:1-2).