

Theme: Christmas

Area of focus: believing

Keywords

New Testament – the second half of the bible, divided into books and **gospels**, based after Jesus' birth.

Gospels – the four books of the **new testament** dealing with Jesus' teachings and life.

Incarnation - For Christians, Incarnation means that Jesus is God in the flesh, and that, in Jesus, God came to live among humans.



Resurrection - The rising of Christ from the dead.

Saturnalia - The ancient Roman festival of Saturn in December.

Wise Men (the Magi) - The Wise Men brought gifts to Jesus as a baby, according to the Bible. Tradition says that they were kings that each brought their own gift.



Nativity story - The Christmas story of the birth of Jesus.

Subjective - Something that is based on personal opinion.

Advent - The lead up to Christmas. The word 'Advent' comes from a very old word 'Adventus' which means the arrival of something or someone important.



Religion: Christianity

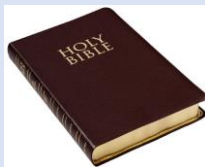
Key question: Is the Christmas story true?

Key questions

- Is the Christmas story true?
- Do sacred texts have to be 'true' to help people understand their religion?
- Was Jesus really born on the 25th December?
- Which type of truth can be applied to the Christmas story?

Key texts.

From the **gospels** in the **New Testament** of the Bible.



Luke 1:26-38 - The Birth of Jesus Foretold

Luke 2: 1-20 - The Birth of Jesus

Matthew 1:18-24 - Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son

Matthew 2: 1-12 - The Magi Visit the Messiah

Attainment targets

- I can start to explain how 'true' could mean different things to different people, and how stories can be 'true' in different ways.
- I can start to explain the Christian belief that Jesus was the Incarnation of God.
- I can start to express an opinion on whether the Christmas story is true and what this might mean to Christians.

Key knowledge:

Nativity. The Christian festival which celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. King Herod tried to kill Jesus when he heard that a new king had been born.



What do Christians believe about Jesus? Christians believe Jesus is the incarnation of God on Earth. God gave Jesus to the Earth to show people how to lead good lives, forgive them for the things they do wrong and prove to them (through his resurrection) that there is life after death.

The birth of Jesus – Was it really on December 25th?

Many debate whether or not Jesus was born on the 25th December. One argument is sheep would not have been seen on the fields until the Spring period.

Why are there different versions of the nativity?

There are different types of truth e.g. historical, scientific, personal (beliefs). There are different accounts of the Christmas story in the Bible according to different people.