

THE CHRISTMAS STORY CONTINUED

A nativity scene set in a stable. The stable is made of dark wood and has a thatched roof. In the center, Mary is kneeling and holding the baby Jesus. Joseph stands to the right, and several shepherds are gathered around. The scene is lit with warm, golden light.

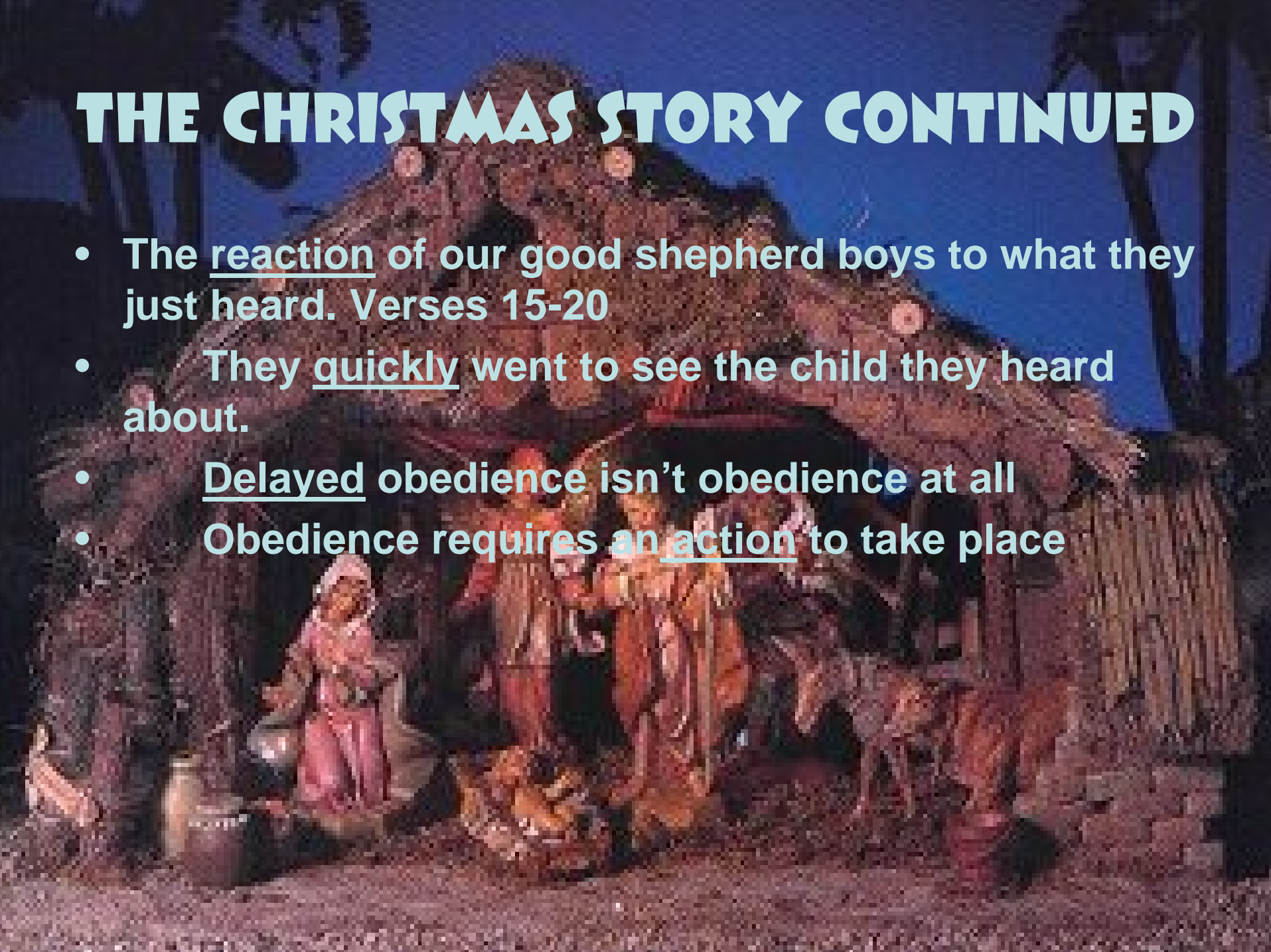
- Luke 2.1-7 serves as an introduction to what takes place in the following scene.
- Similar to our census that was taken in 2000
- Different in the way that you had to go back to the hometown of your ancestors.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY CONTINUED

- The announcement to the lowest and last people you would have thought. Verses 8-14
- shepherds were on the low end of the political spectrum
- Shows that Christ came not just for the rich but also the poor.
- Gabriel along with some of his friends brings the good news.
- Interesting note: Gabriel's only function as portrayed in the Bible is to announce/proclaim something concerning the Messiah. (see Daniel 8-9, Luke 1)

THE CHRISTMAS STORY CONTINUED

- The reaction of our good shepherd boys to what they just heard. Verses 15-20
- They quickly went to see the child they heard about.
- Delayed obedience isn't obedience at all
- Obedience requires an action to take place



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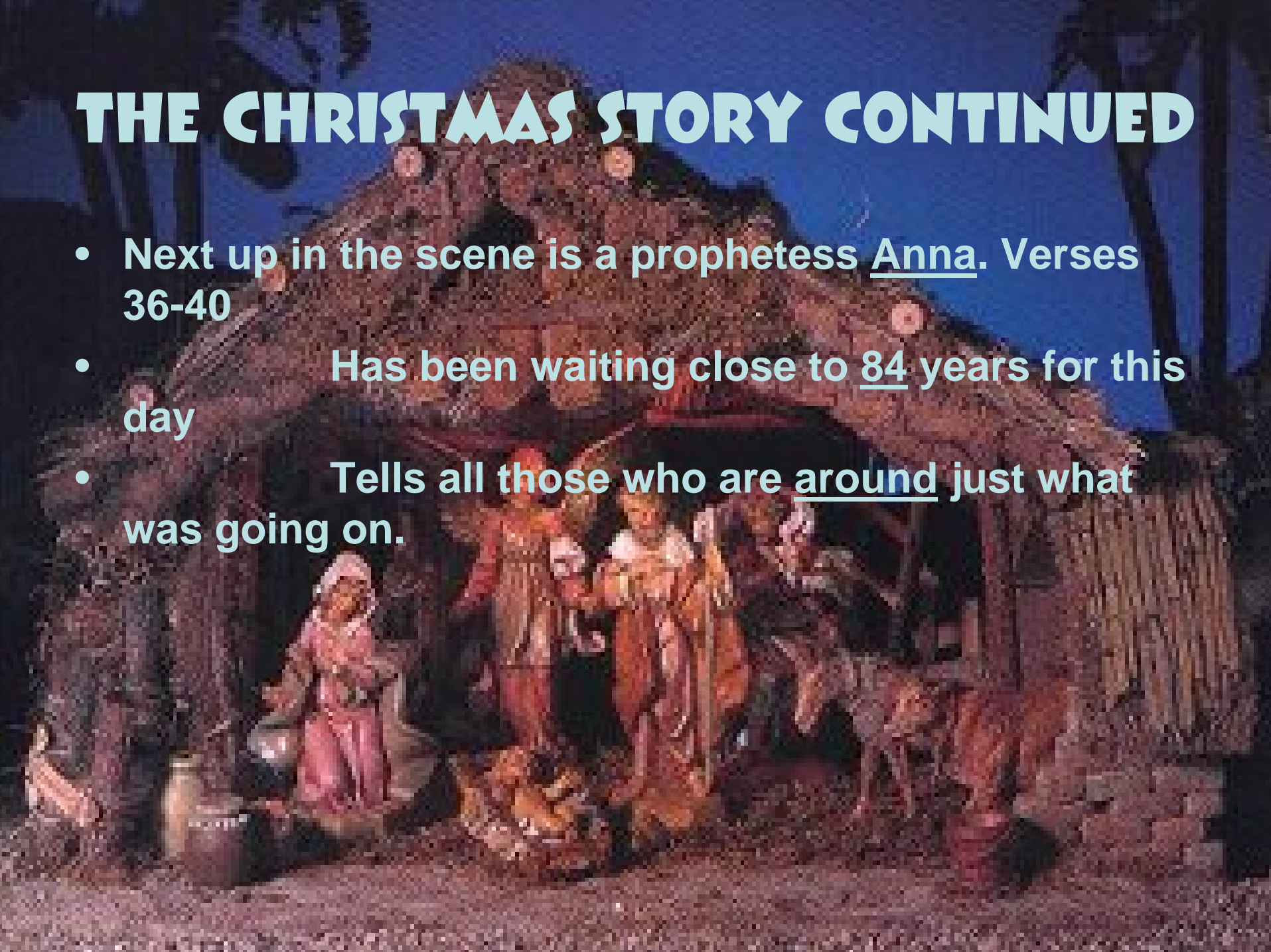
- Jesus at the Temple. Verses 21:40
- Mary, Joseph, and Jesus all obeyed the Law. Verses 21-24
- The Law in all of the OT but especially the Pentateuch.
- The fact he was circumcised is a prelude to the work on the cross.
- Had to be redeemed from God just like he bought our redemption through his blood.

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- The long awaited visit by the good old man Simeon. Verses 25-35.
- Devout and righteous, meaning he trusted God and didn't allow the oral/cultural traditions of the day affect his walk.
- Knew that salvation would be for Gentiles as well.
- Was so in tune with God that he knew when the Holy Spirit moved him to do something.
- Prophesized to what the rest of the Gospels show actually happened.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY CONTINUED

- Next up in the scene is a prophetess Anna. Verses 36-40
- Has been waiting close to 84 years for this day
- Tells all those who are around just what was going on.



THE CHRISTMAS STORY CONTINUED

A nativity scene set in a stable. In the center, a woman in a blue robe kneels before a baby lying in a manger. To the left, a man in a red robe stands with his hands clasped. To the right, a man in a blue robe stands with his hands on his hips. In the background, a man in a red robe stands near a horse. The stable is made of rough-hewn wood and has a thatched roof. The scene is lit with warm, golden light.

Principles for Us

- Obedience is something that requires an action.
- Like Anna and the shepherds we must go out and tell all those about Christ.
- We need to like Simeon take God at His Word and be willing to wait until it happens.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY CONTINUED

A nativity scene set in a stable. Mary is seated on the left, holding the infant Jesus. Joseph stands behind them. Several animals, including a cow and a donkey, are present. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, and the background is a dark blue sky with a crescent moon.

More Principles

- God will do what He promises He will do.
- We need to be in tune with God so much that we know when He moves us to an action.
- Christ came for all, not just some.

