

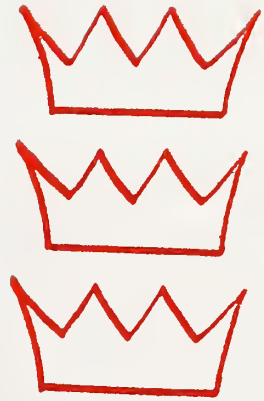
on this
Our Lord's Birthday



Greetings and Blessings



The
Christmas
Story



as told by



St. Luke



SPEC
CAPAM



the CHRISTMAS STORY

. . . at that time: there went forth a decree from caesar augustus that a census of the whole world should be taken. this first census took place while cyrinus was GOVERNOR of SYRIA. and all WERE GOING, each to his own TOWN, to REGISTER. and joseph also went from galilee out





of the town of nazareth into
judaea to the town of david, which
is called bethlehem—because he
was of the house and family of
david—to register, together
with mary his espoused wife,
who was with child. and it came
to pass while they were there,
that the days of her to be de-
livered were fulfilled. and she



BROUGHT FORTH HER FIRSTBORN
son, and wrapped him in swad-
dling clothes, and laid him in a
manger, because there was no
room for them in the inn. and
there were shepherds in the
same district living in the fields
and keeping watch over their
flock by night. and behold, an
angel of the lord stood by them



and the glory of god shone round about them, and they feared exceedingly. and the angel said to them, "do not be afraid, for behold, i bring you good news of great joy which shall be to all the people; for there has been born to you today in the town of david a savior, who is christ the lord. and





this shall be a sign to you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." and suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth among men of good will."

St. Luke, 2. 1-14





The Circumcision and the Name of Jesus

“in the name of jesus let every knee bow of those that are in heaven, on earth, and under the earth; and let every tongue confess that the lord jesus christ is in the glory of god the father”. the words “in the name of jesus” permeate the whole liturgy of this feast.



IN SACRED SCRIPTURE WE FIND GOD BESTOWING NAMES WHICH DESCRIBE THE NATURE, CHARACTER AND WORK CERTAIN PEOPLE WERE TO DO. WE FIND THAT EVEN MARY WAS GUIDED IN THE SELECTION OF THE NAME FOR HER SON. "AT THAT TIME, WHEN EIGHT DAYS WERE FULFILLED FOR THE CIRCUMCISION OF THE CHILD, HIS NAME WAS CALLED JESUS, THE NAME GIVEN HIM BY THE ANGEL BEFORE HE WAS



conceived in the womb." st. matthew explains - "for he is to save his people from their sins". the name jesus means savior.

the power in his name, reverently used, will cure evils of the spiritual and physical order. saint peter, in defending the cure of the cripple, cried out: "you crucified jesus christ, the nazarene, and god raised him from the dead; it is



through his name that this man stands before you restored. . . . salvation is not to be found elsewhere; this alone of all the names under heaven has been appointed to men as the one by which we must needs be saved."

this is the name which commands respect of all beings, of those already saved, of those striving for salvation, and even those who have lost forever



their chances for salvation. Christians naturally invoke this name often. make a part of your daily act of reparation the prayer: "O God, who didst appoint thine only-BEGOTTEN son to be the savior of mankind, and didst bid that he should be called JESUS, mercifully grant that we, who venerate his holy name on earth, may also enjoy the vision of him in heaven."



The Coming of the Magi

at that time: when jesus was
born in bethlehem of judaea, in
the days of king herod, behold
there came magi from the east
to jerusalem, saying, "where is
the newly born king of the jews?
for we have seen his star in the



east and have come to worship him." But when king herod heard this, he was troubled, and so was all jerusalem with him. and gathering together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the christ was to be born. and they said to him, "in bethlehem of judea; for thus it is written through the prophet,



'and thou, bethlehem, of the land of judaea, art by no means least among the princes of juda; for from thee shall come forth a leader who shall rule my people israel.'" then herod summoned the magi secretly, and carefully ascertained from them the time when the star had appeared to them. and sending them to bethlehem, he



said, "go and make careful inquiry concerning the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and worship him." now they, having heard the king, went their way. and behold, the star that they had seen in the east went before them, until it came and stood over the place where the child was. and when they saw the



STAR they REJOICED EXCEEDINGLY.
and ENTERING the house, they
found the child with mary his
mother, and falling down they
worshipped him. and opening
their TREASURES they offered
him gifts of gold, frankincense
and myrrh. and BEING WARNED
in a DREAM NOT TO RETURN TO
HEROD, they went BACK to their
OWN COUNTRY BY another way.

and the king returned to his own country

Matt. 2, 1-12

...and throughout
the New Year

GOD BE GOOD TO YOU
IN ALL YOUR DAYS;

GOD BE GOOD TO YOU
IN ALL YOUR WAYS.

GOD GIVE STRENGTH TO YOU
WHEN CROSSES LEAN;

GOD GIVE LIGHT TO YOU
THE CLOUDS BETWEEN.

GOD GIVE PEACE TO YOU
IN TIMES OF STRIFE;

GOD BLESS EVERYTHING
THAT FILLS YOUR LIFE.

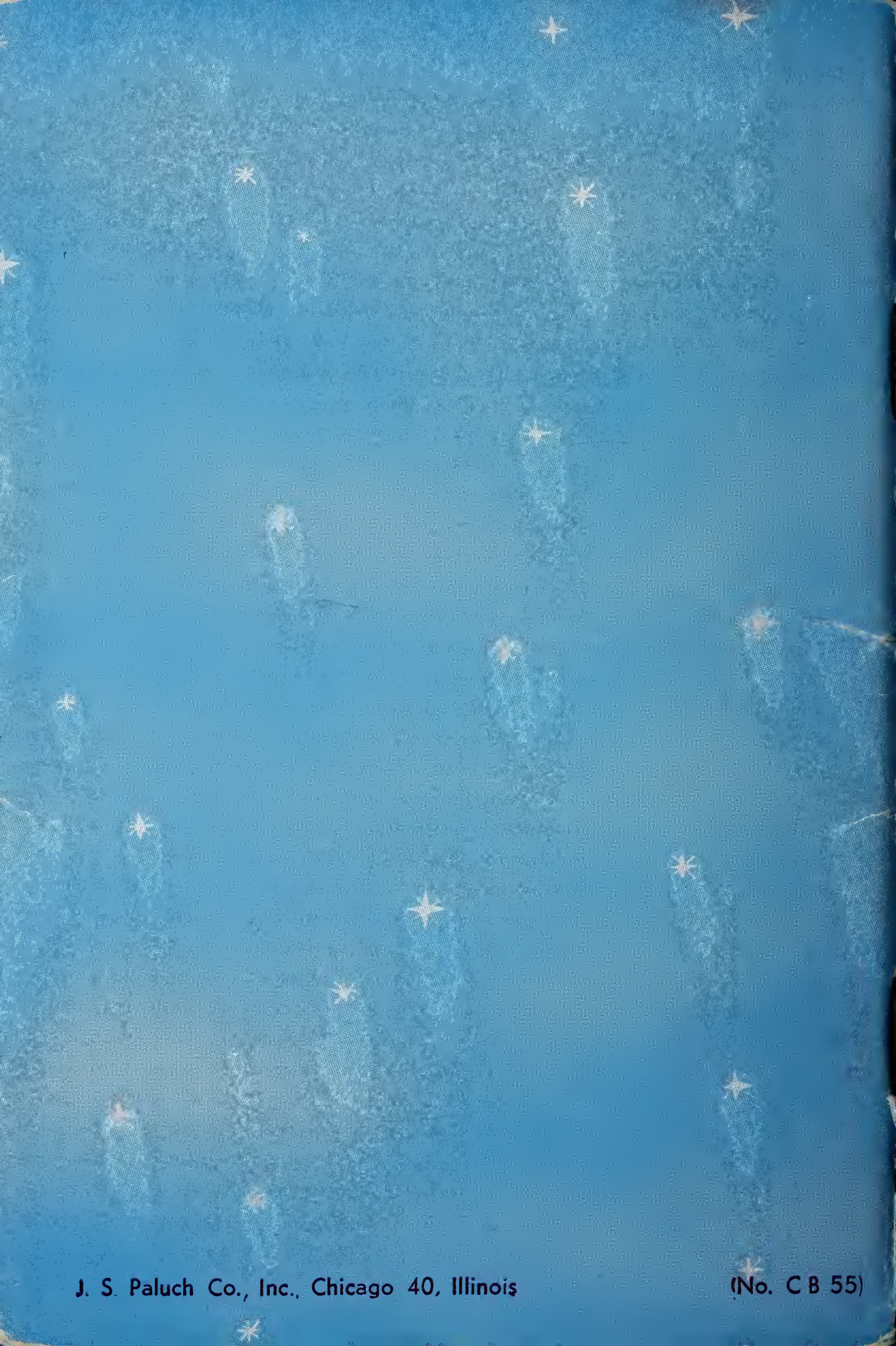
GOD SEND JOY TO YOU
WHEN GRIEF IS O'ER;

GOD MAKE WAY FOR YOU
AT HEAVEN'S DOOR.



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